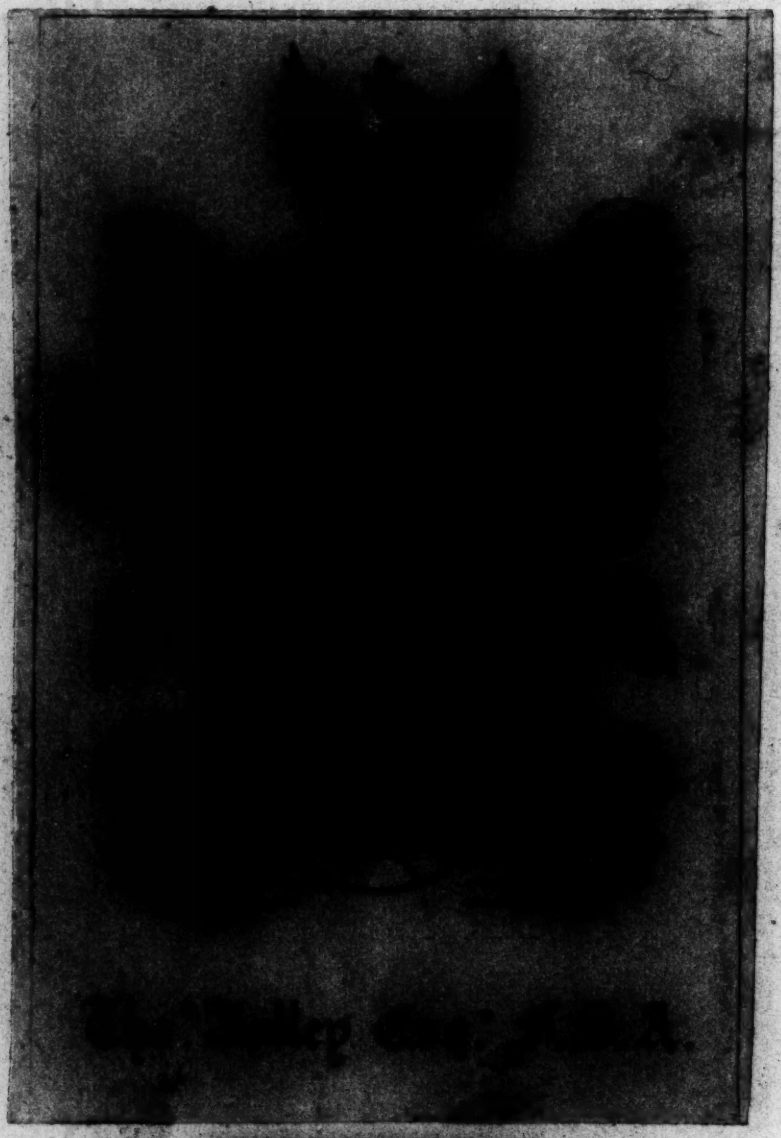
Daniell



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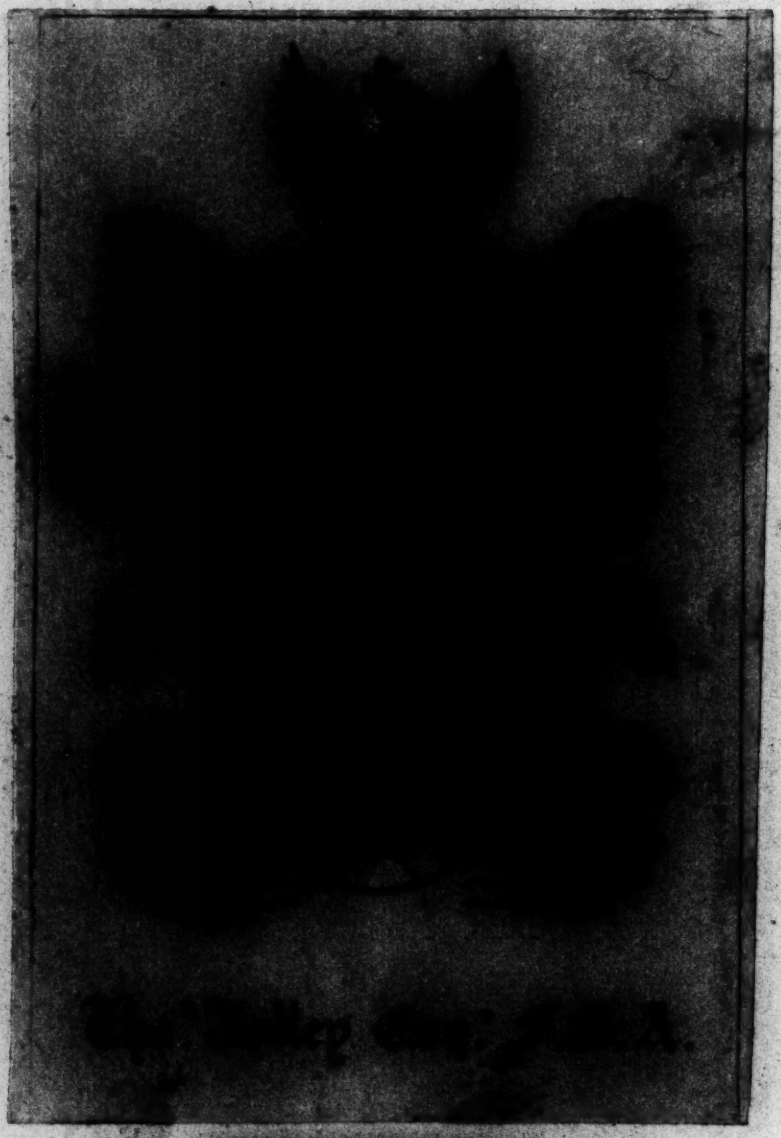
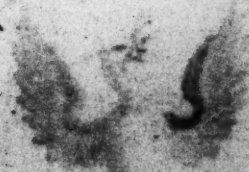


Daniel's first publ^n



Mr Collier says this work is very scarce & curious. See a notice of "Fortune's Toyes" in the Address to the Reader.

THE Worthy tract of Paulus Iouius, contayning a Discourse of rare inuentions, both Militarie and Amorous *called Imprese.*

Whereunto is added a Preface contayning the Arte of composing them, with many other notable deuises.

By Samuell Daniell late Student in Oxenforde.

SW 1
1222

AT LONDON,
Printed for Simon Waterson.

TO THE RIGHT WORSHIPFVL SIR EDWARD Dimmock, Champion to her Maieſtie,

SAMVEL DANIEL wiſheth happie health with increaſe of Worſhip.

THe vnskilfull Statuarie wanting the two principall inſtruments of his ſcience, iudgement, and art: hauing rudely faſhioned the forme of either ſome Apollo *or* Cupid, *& waighing therewithal, the baſenes of his ſimple worke: by good aduiſe erecteth the ſame on the ſommitie of ſome high Piller, to the end that both the errors therein committed, may eſcape the narrow vewe of the captious, & likewiſe ſhadow all imperfections which might diſlike the curious, both which he auoydeth by the diſtance of his laſtie mounted ſtatue, eſcaping thereby the ſtaine of reproofe. In like maner right worſhipfull, haue I aduẽtured to place theſe my vnpoliſhed labors on the Piller of your worthines, craning the ſupportance of your fauorable protection. Whoſe*

 Worthi

worthy name and Martial title being enstamped in their forehead, shal adorne them with a sufficiẽt ornamẽt to passe the vewe without reprehension. And if herein I shall any way satisfie the delight of the studious Gentlemen, you alone are to receiue the guerdon of their fauorable voyces, whose offered courtesie hath enforced me to vndertake the tillage of so hard a soyle, to make you a present of the first fruites thereof: which if they are not such as your vertues deserue or my affection desires, yet spring they from the ground of a willing minde. Solon ordayned that the Sacrifices offered to the Goddes, should bee of as little cost as might bee, to the ende that great expences might not hinder religion, saying: the Goddes did onely accept the willing heart respecting the pietie of the giuer, without waighing the largenesse of the gift. And I hope my small Sacrifice, proceeding from deuotion, shall be accepted on the Aulter of your courtesie.

To whom he wisheth all happie felicitie, who remayneth alwaies yours at commaunde.

Samuel Daniell.

TO HIS GOOD FREND SAMVEL DANIEL, N. W. Wisheth health.

I Knowe not whether to excuse your nature (good M. DANIEL) or blame your shamefastnesse, which so much laboreth (as the vtter enemy of your good name) to defraude your labors of their deserued Lawrell, & in despight of arte to deprive vs of so delicate inuections, which the best wits in *Europe* haue dedicated to posteritie: wherein surely you iniurie your countreymen publikely, vnnaturally your frends, and vnadvisedly your selfe. But what can you pretend? The severitie of Censors, the nice delicatenes of Courtiers, or the grauetie of Philosophers? What Philosophy taught you that? That which is currant may abyde the touch, the yong *Æglets* dare looke vpon the Sunne, and that which is eloquently polished may abyde the presse. Why then may not your *Ionius* looke any man in the face, hauing arte to direct him, authoritie to defend him, all humanitie to pleade for him. If you misdoubt his grace in the Vniuersitie,

the Muſes will giue him their voyces, if the ſuffrages of the holy virgins in the Courte, they are *Graces* themſelues. If onely the multitude *Odi profanum vulgus & arceo*. For I ſuppoſe you remember the olde prouerbs: that it is great trouble to make a Couche for a dogge, for that turning himſelfe ſo variably, no man knoweth where to place the Pillowe: and ſo mutable and vnconſtant is the multitude, that it is not for a wiſe man to indeuour to feeede their humour or fit their fancies. Yet doe not thinke that euery prudent reader is like to wanton Miſtreſſe *Æmilia*, who would ordinarily flout the firſt line ſhe read: or to curious *Gonzaga*, ſurnamed the Carper, who no ſooner heard a pretie inuention, but would recompence it with his gentell girkes: Or to *Theodorus* ſcollers, which receiued euery thing with their left hand, which their maſter gaue with the right, or to the *Hidropicus*, who hauing no iudgement of taſtes, yet neuer liketh any ſawce, and cõdemneth all Cookes. Therefore I would wiſh you as your frende, neuer to ſmotther ſo ſweete inuentions, for feare of Cenſors, who in words perhaps will debaſe it, which in deede they conceiue not, and controll that they cannot amende, neyther following the counſell of the wiſe, nor the example of the vertuous.

There is another point in your laſt letter, wherein you ſeeme to marre al that you haue made;

made, and dash that which so cunningly was deuised. For sooth you blush to open another mans shop, and sell *Italian* wares as though you were a Bankerupt in philosophie, and could not afforde any pritie conceipt without borowing or embeselling. I pray you Syr, shal *Castilio* be more reuerenced for his courtier, then *D. Clarke* admired for inuesting him with so courtlie robes? shall *Menander* be eternized for his *Comedies*, and *Terence* forgot who gaue them credit: Shall *Lambin*, *Cardan*, and *Scaliger*, and the most excellent Secretaries of nature, *Plinie*, *Matthiolus* & *Tolet*, shall they be lesse reuerenced, for perfecting knowledge, thé the old Philosophers for a shadowed inuention? shal the witte and capacitie of antiquitie sit in her throne, and disposition & iudgement of posteritie keepe the dore: no reason, the one deuised, the other disposed, *Iouius* therefore is bound vnto you, both for absoluting and blazing his inuétions abroad in this famous Iland, and wee are beholding vnto you for reuealing them to vs: wherein truely both arte in translating, & knowledge in iudging, iustly may chalége their fees. You cannot forget that which *Nolanus* (that man of infinite titles among other phantasticall toyes) truely noted by chaunce in our Schooles, that by the helpe of translations, al Sciences had their offspring, and in my iudgement it is true. The *Hebrewes* hatched knowledge,

Greece did nouriſh it, *Italie* clothed and beautified it, & the artes which were left as wards in their minoritie to the people of *Rome*, by Tranſlators as moſt carefull Gardiners, are now deduced to perfect age and ripeneſſe. Cõcerning the nakednes of your ſtile (which troubleth you without the colours or floriſh of *Rhetorique*) *Tullie* commendeth it, al Tranſlators approue it; and no man maketh ſo much accõpt of the gloſſe as of the ſubſtance: of the gay Iuie buſh as of the wine: Neither could it preiudice you at all (if it were naked as in deede it is pure) becauſe you haue not done it as the *Sybarite*, that bad their gueſtes a whole yere before the feaſt, to make ſome expectation of a ſumptuous banket. A toye would require all brauerie: Vanitie all ornaments, and an Aſſe had neede of all his trappings. But your argument is ſuch as can both moue and delight, tickle the eare and ſatiſfie the minde. And our time alſo hath learned to lothe that od riming vaine, and to perſecute the letter is cleane out of faſhion, which begon by a bad portraiture of wit, and is ended by a ripe direction of iudgement. But why doe I rather aunſwere the capcious, then ſatiſfie the graue and modeſt, who at the firſt vewe (I dare preſume vpon their wiſedome) will ſubſcribe to the ſupremacie of the wit of your newe Science. For if Courtiers are inwardly rauiſhed in vewing the Picture of *Fia-*

metta

metta which *Boccace* limned. If Ladies entertaine *Bandel* or *Arioſto* in their Cloſets. If Louers imbrace their Phiſition *Ouid* in extremitie of their paſſion: then will Gentlemen of all tribes, much rather honor your *Impreſa*, as a moſt rare Iewell, and delicate *Enchiridion*. For there is not publiſhed a floriſh vpon fancie, or *Tarletons* toyes, or the ſillie Enterlude of *Diogenes*: You profeſſe not *Artem iocandi* or *Potãdi*: You diſcourſe not of *Apuleius* Aſſe: You trifle not as *Cornelius* the *Brabantine*, who Anno. 1582.
publiſhed an *Encomion* of *Tuftmockados*: But you preſent vs an order to frame *Deuiſes*, in ſhew glorious, in forme plain, in title ſtraũge: the which is ſo much the more to bee eſteemed, being deriued frõ the moſt pure ſprings *Lucas Contile*, and *Ruſcelli*, whom I cannot name without ſome Preface to their commendation. What ſhould I recount *Dominicus* and *Alciat*, with whom you ſeeme to haue beene very familiarly acquainted, which addeth much credite to your woorke, and notably hath giuen light to your ſtudies. But concerning the arte of *Impreſe*, I needе not draw the petigree of it, ſith it is knowne that it deſcended from the auncient *Aegiptians*, and *Chaldeans*, in the Schoole of *Memphis*: who deuiſed meanes before Charecters were founde out, to vtter their conceiptes by formes of Beaſtes, Starres, Hearbes, (as you haue declared) and theſe notes were called ἱερογλυφικὰ

i. ſacra

in sacra nota. This Philosophie was increased by *Orus Niliacus*, and *Pythagoras*: & was more plainely reuealed by *Clemens*, *Pausanias*, *Atheneus*: & in this last age reuiued by *Pierius Valerian*. But to what end serued this? to shadow suerly their purposes and intents by figures. So counsayled *Plato*: So practised the first parents of Philosophie. As by the picture of a Stork they signified Αντιπελαργιαν, By a Serpent pollicie. By an Oliue peace. By a Gote lust: drawing these Charecters frō the world, as from a volume wherein was written the wonders of nature. Thus was the first foundations layd of *Impreses*: From hence were deriued by succession of pregnant wittes *Stemmata* Coates of Armes, *Insignia* Ensignes, and the olde Images which the *Romaines* vsed as witnesses of their Auncestors, *Emblemes* and *Deuises*. Then what was the intēt of these Ensignes and *Deuises*? What cause can bee pretended for them? What did they import? *Iamblicus* saieth that they were conceiptes, by an externall forme representing an inward purpose: So *Fergusius* the first Scottishe King did beare in his Standard a *Lion gentle*, to bewray his courage testifie his stomacke, and dismaie his aduersarie, which being well marshalled, is borne for the atchiuement of the Kinges euer since. So did the *Athenians* beare their Owle: the *Thebans* their *Sphinx*: the *Switzers* their Beare. But among all inuentions, surpasse

Αντιπελαργια.

passe for witt & art your *Imprese*: neither lesse renowmed then the *Insegnes*, nor lesse heroicall then the Armes called by *Paradin Symbola Heroica*, by *Simeon deuises illustres*. *Minoes* a man otherwise excellently qualified in all humanitie, semeth neither perfectly to define *Impreses*, nor artificially to distinguishe them from *Emblemes*. The sole worde *Symbolum* euery way is to large and generall a terme for them, ἐξ οὗ ἐστιν κινμᾶς συμβαλλαν καὶ γνῶμαι, that note by which we know or cā cōiecture any thing, is *Symbolum*. Now in this scope and generallitie, how is it restrayned, how doth he measure and fit that word for *Imprese*? *Sumitur hic Symbolum pro argumento seu nota qua quod piam occultatur, sed doctis auribus intelligēdum proponitur*. There is great ods (my good freend) betwixt this adumbration and your substantial definition. If we respect the forme it is lame, and why so? because there is no proper difference to supporte it. And this is an infallible grounde: for seeing it comprehendeth all the former, *Standards*, *Liurees* & *Armes*, it is rather an vniuersall note then a speciall *Idea*: if we regarde the circumstaunces, it is very superficiall: if the final ende, confused. Now to come to the difference of *Emblemes*, and *Impreses*, what subtilitie doth he shewe in it? *Symbolum est genus, Emblema species*: This motion is to vniuersall, rather tending to deuide the *genus* then to define the *species*: but the

the difference muſt bee borowed, from the properties: and becauſe this is a caſe worthie to be demurred, let vs conſult more curiouſly with our artiſtes, let vs conferre with our profeſſor, what diſtinction maketh *Iouius?* I muſt excuſe him as *Traian* did a certain Poet, *Plus eſt in arte quam in artifice*. For as *Minoes* iudgeth of him, *Artem hanc incheauit potius quam perfecit*. But in deed theſe two conceipts are allied by ſo greate affinitie, their intents and pictures ſo vniforme, and cõſonant: that without ſharpe inſight wee cannot diſcypher their difference. *Emblema* is deriued of ἐμβαλλω *interponere, inſerere: quicquid interſeritur ornatus gratia*, whether the inuention bee embrodered in garmentes grauen in ſtone, enchaſed in golde, wrought in Arras: and in my opinion there is great *impariſie* betweene them, both in body and ſoule. They are diſcouered by ſondrie Cogniſances, eſtabliſhed by reaſon and confirmed by reading, and may bee authoriſed by experience. The mot of an *Impreſa* may not exceede three wordes. *Emblems* are interpreted by many verſes. An *Impreſa* is not garniſhed with many different Images, *Emblemes* are not limited. In *Deuiſes* it is enacted that the figure without the mot or the mot without the figure ſhould not interprete the Authors meaning. In *Emblems* is more libertie and fewer lawes. *Impreſes* manifeſt the ſpecial purpoſe of Gentlemen in warlike

like combats or chamber tornaments. *Emblems* are generall conceiptes rather of moral matters then perticulare deliberations: rather to giue credit to the wit, then to reueale the secretes of the minde. What should I say more. This *Impresa*, is that perfect *Symbolum*: for antiquitie to bee reuerenced: for worthinesse admired: for pleasure embraced. Pardon me (I pray you) if I rainge a little & chase a discourse in this so wide a Forrest: let me recorde some monument of the olde Registers of *Greece*.

Agamemnon Soueraigne at the seige of *Troy*, bare in his sheild a *Lion* saliant, with this mot ουτος μεν φόβος εστὶ βροτῶν. *Amphitruo* being encamped against the *Thebans*, caused to be portrayed vpon his *Target*. *Cum quadrigis sol exoriens*, and breathed life into that body by this soule, *In arduo laurus*. *Artetemesia* to testifie her selfe a loyall wife to her Lorde and King wore in her Tablet an *Eliotropium*, rising and falling with the Sunne, adding this mot, *Persoluet vota pietas*, which was verified, for she enterred the ashes of her slain husband, in no other Tombe then in her owne body, so that death could scarse diuorse them. But let vs come nigher hande. *Vascus Gama* being diswaded from the *Indian* voyage (neuer before attempted) erected a globe elumined with Starres, vpon a piller of golde, with this sentence *Vndique par*: respecting

cting the auncient verſe. *Vndique ad ſuperos tantundem eſt via.* Haue not our Printers alſo of late honored this profeſsion? Haue they not bene at emulation for ingenious *Deuiſes*. *Stephen* glorieth in his tree, and moderateth thoſe (that loue to moūt by loftie witts) with this Poſie: *Noli altum ſapere*. *Plautin* beareth a compaſſe in a hande ſtretched out of the cloudes which meaſureth all, *Conſtantia & labore*. I will omit *Griphius Epiſcopus*: I will forget all artificers, who commonly buy ſuch inuentions at the ſecond hand. I will not meddle with Courtiers, I will paſſe ouer the knowen *Impreſes* of *Moore* and *Cromwell*, a payre royall of nobles. And now I will bring you to Church. A certain Engliſh Prelate, deuiſed a Lambe in a thorne buſh, pitifully inflamed, yet caſting his eyes cherefully vpon the Sunne with this mot. *Ne cede*. Tell me how you like this *Heroycall Impreſa* of *Curtius Gonzaga*. An *Egle* flying on high againſt the Sunne, with this word *pur che*, a parte of that verſe of *Petrarche*. *Pur che ne godan gli orchi, ardan le piume*. For that which delighteth my eyes burneth my fethers. A frend of mine, whom you know, M. P. climing for an *Egles* neſt, but defeated by the *mallalent* of fortune, limned in his ſtudie a *Pine* tree ſtriken with lightning, carying this mot. *Il mio ſperar*, which was borowed alſo from *Petrarch*. *Allor che fulminato e morto giaacque il mio ſperar che*

The tree of good and ill.

Tu ne cede malis, ſed cōtra audētius.

tropp'

tropp' alto mintana. Yet in deſpight of fortune My hope
he deuiſed alſo a Pinnace or ſmall Barke, toſ-
ſed with tempeſtious ſtormes, and in the ſaile
was written *expectanda dies*, hoping as I think
for one Sunne ſhine day to recompence ſo
many glomy and winter monethes. Therfore
now to conclude, ſeeing your argument is
plauſible, the arte a noueltie, your firſt fruites
ripe what reaſon is there, why you ſhould pri-
uatly beſtowe them of ſome one gentleman:
eſpecially cõſidering that you can pleaſe him
no way better, then to pleaſure his countrey
mẽ. For who doth not know M. *Dimmock*, to
be a gentleman by famely worſhipfull, by loy-
altie vnſpotted, by office the Princes Cham-
pion: ſo alſo by curteſie worthy the Chro-
nicle? what neede you thẽ to feare the mallice
of the weakeſt enemy that may bee a carping
tongue, hauing him for the Champiõ of your
booke, whom her Maieſtie hath vouchſafed
the Champion of her perſon, or why feare
you leaſt our old *Academicks* improue your
art for a toy, ſeeing that wiſdome is not in-
corporated to Nightcaps, neither muſt wee
depend vpon the verdite of ſome conceled
Philoſophers.

Thus am I bold to animate and encourage
you to your credite, which if I haue done to
long, ſo vppon occaſion did *Tullio Plato, Sene-
ca:* if rudely aſcribe it to ſimplicitie, if fleight-
ly to the rarenes of your arte: if to copiouſly

to

to a feruent desire: for seeing that *in verbis est aliquod prœmium*, I had rather shewe my selfe to prodigall to my frends, then a snudge: which when you haue read, fier it. From Oxenford the xx. of Nouember.

Yours, N. W.

TO

TO THE FRENDLY READER.

I Thought it good (right worshipfull and curteous gentlemen) to communicate with you this delightsome tract of strange deuises, barely clothed in an English habite, voyde of al such ornaments as are due vnto the worthines thereof: presuming vpon your wisdomes, who had rather gather a pleasant flower springing amongst the sharpe thornes, for the sweet sauour, then a gay colored weede for all the fayre semblance: esteeming the value of the precious treasure not by the outward shewe, but the inward substance, sith often we finde by triall meliora latere, *and faire shewes to proue often fond shadowes. The tree* Caliestephenon *in* Palestine, *hath a corrupt barke, but a pure body: And well may a gallant blossome fit the humour of a delicate eye, when the gaynfull fruite shall satisfie the sa[illegible] of a discreet taste. But the Diamant hath ingendred a naturall ferme, so that it neede no artificiall frame; a gay glosse may better beseeme a course*

Kersey, then a fine Skarlet. My weake commendations of these notable and rare inuentions, may rather eclipse their credit, then purchase their fame, therefore I referre them to the censure of your considerate readers, for whose better vnderstand of the Impreſe of Paulus Iouius (who in many places haue erred from the common receiued precepts) I haue gathered into a certayne order the way of framing and composing all such kindes of deuises both militarie and amorous vsed at this day of the noble gentlemen of Europe, in adorning their glorious triumphes, or declaring their inward pretended purposes and enterprises, not by speach or any apparent maner, but shadowed vnder a certayne vayle of formes or figures in such sort as shall hereafter be declared. And although that to signifie our intentions by these formes or figures of creatures, be not a thing more notable then speach or writing, which perfectly doe manifest any operation, whereas the other doth doubtfully discouer our pretences. Yet I say, that to represent vnto the sence of sight the forme or figure of any thing, is more natural in act, & more cõmon to al creatures then is hearing, and thereupon sayth Aristotle, that we loue the sence of seeing, for that by it we are taught and made to learne more then by any other of our senses, whereby we see that all men naturally take delight in pictures, and euen litle children as soone as they can vse their hands at libertie, goe with a Cole to the wall, indeuoring to drawe the forme of this thing or that. This naturall disposition hath

raigned

raigned generally euen from the beginning when the worde was but yet new, and induced nations first to figure beasts, plants, trees, celestiall signes, and such like, obseruing the nature and qualitie of euery creature represented by their figures, whereby in time they became able to shewe their intent to their frends and others vayled vnder the forme of these creatures, in which facultie the Ægyptians were most singulare as the first authors of this Hieroglyphicall *art: as well do witnesse their sacred Colomnes dedicated to* Mercurie, *whereon were diuers formes and pictures wrought and engrauen, contayning great knowledge, which they called* Hieroglyphi, *To the which pillers* Plato *is sayde to haue gone and retourned with great profit. Yet notwithstanding, in my opinion their deuise was vnperfect, by reason of the diuersitie of the natures of beastes and other things which they figured. Whereupon they who drewe more neere vnto our time seemeth to haue brought this art to perfection, by adding mots or posies to their figures whereby they couertly disclose their intent by a more perfect order. Moreouer besides the figuring of things corporall and of visible forme, men haue also represented things incorporal, which they could not doe more fitly then by colours, as representing sorowe by blacke, desire to shed bloud by red, puritie by white, &c. And now sith time hath brought to perfection many notable deuises, which rude antiquitie could not discerne: Let vs consider by howe many wayes we may discouer our secret intentions*

by colours and figures, as first by Liurees, secondly by Ensignes, thirdly by mots, and lastly by Impreſe, of which foure kindes of Deuiſes, I purpoſe to ſet downe diſtinctly in fewe words their ſignifications and properties, according to the opinion of the beſt authors which euer haue written of this matter.

This worde Liuree is borowed of the Spaniſhe, which they write with, b librea, but pronounce it as written with v. Some ſay it had his Etemologiè of Libro, for that Liurees are as an opẽ booke where a man may reade the intent of him which weareth them. Some alſo will haue it deriued of Libero, and that for two reaſons, the one, in that from the beginning it hath beene a profeſſion onely of Gentlemen, and noble perſonages: and although that ſeruaunts do commonly weare theſe Liurees, yet are they not ſaid to be their owne but their patrones. For Plutarch in the life of Solon ſaieth, that ſeruauntes were forbidden any free exerciſe. The other reaſon may bee, for that the Authors ſetting them to the common vewe, being not altogether apparent, commit them libero iudicio, to the free iudgement of the Interpreter. Some will haue it brought from the Latin, Liber eram, for that the principall purpoſe of Liurees haue been to ſhewe ſome amorous ſeruice, and for this onely intent were they firſt inuented at the beginning, to ſhewe that they which did weare them, were no more free of them ſelues but ſubiect ſeruauntes to their Miſtriſſes: as who ſhould ſay, Liber eram, I was free, but now bound: according to that of Virgil,

gil, fuimus Troes.

It is said that Liurees *of only colours, had their originall after this manner: that the Gentlemen which loued or rather (to speake after the* Spaniſh *or* Neapolitan *manner) which serued any Lady, with that amorous kinde of seruice, which is vsed in those places, were accustomed, to marke with what coloured robe their Mistrisse was inuested, to the end to decke them selues with apparell of the same colour & cut. But some supposing that to be to great a presumptiõ, thought rather to addresse thẽ-selues in a habite of the same colour, as did the domesticall seruantes of their Ladie, to denouate humilitie, and shew them selues readie for any seruice commaunded by her soueranitie: Yet now, for diuers respectes, in this our time the discrete Gentlemen bound to the performance of this strict Obligation of* faith *and* secrecie, *haue deuised a closer couert for their amorous conceiptes, by colours and figures in their* Liurees, *which are now more commonly called* Deuises, *in all the most florishing Countries of Christendome: which also is not forgottẽ of* Arioſto, *in these verses following, recounting the* Deuise *of* Bradamante, *whereby she expressed her dispayre, and desire to die.*

Era la sopraueſta del colore
Di ch' esser suol la foglia, che s'imbianca,
Quando dal ramo è tolta, è che l' humore
Che facea niuo l' arbore, le manca:
Ricamata à tronconi, era di fuore

Di cipresso, che mai non si rinfranca
Poi ch' ha sentito la dura bipenne
L' habito al suo dolor molto conuenne.

Thus in effect in English.

Her vpper robe of such like colour was,
As is the fading leafe of palish hew
Whē from the bowe the liuely sap doth passe
Which nourish did the stock whereon it grew
Embrodered al with braunches thick aboue,
And fading bowes of dolefull Cipresse tree:
Which cut with deadly axe doth neuer proue
This habit with her griefe did well agree.

There are first, diligently to be obserued in these Deuises *or* Liurees *three things: The time when: The place where: and the maner how they are to be vsed. Concerning the time: they are neuer worne but either in true or fained warre, or at Iusts, Turneis, Maskes, or at such like extrauagant shewes. The place fit for them, are on armed men or Maskers, worne in such place as they best like about their persons: albeit the Helmet, the Shielde, the Bardes, the borders of the garment, or the breast, are the fittest places appointed for them. The maner of vsing them is diuers, according to their* species: *but first generally you are to obserue this, that they bee not too intricate in greate number, nor so confused that they neede some* Apollo *to resolue them. Perticularly it behoueth to note the deuition*

of.

of their ſpecies which are of al kindes of Deuiſes or Liurees ſixe. The firſt conſisteth altogether of colours: The ſecond of colours and figures: The third of colours and letters: The fourth of colours figures and letters: The fifth of figures onely: The ſixth of figures and letters. Concerning the firſt colours alone, are now ſeldome vſed but of Mourners, or ſuch like. As for example, a certaine Gentleman on a time, hauing ill ſucceſſe in his amorous ſeruice, and ſpending his time in dolor and griefe, was aduertiſed that the wife of a certaine freende of his was departed this life, whereupon it behoued him to put on mourning apparell: and hauing occaſion to ſhewe himſelfe at a feaſt, he clothed him in blacke Grogran drawne out with Taffatie, & both cut on blacke Damaſke, in ſuch ſorte that the Damaſke was beſt ſeene to bee blackeſt: which mourning habite was no ſoner ſeene of ſuch as knewe the hiſtorie of his loue, but they perceiued what it ſignified, as well as if he himſelfe had declared it: and greatly did they commend the inuention. For with the vppermoſt blacke he repreſented ſorowe for the dead: with that vnderneath he mourned for his freend: but his owne blacke appeared more and ſignified ſome greater griefe, and that of his frend ſeemed leſſe, and repreſented leſſe in effect. For in his opinion leſſe griefe was it to bee depriued of a wife, ſith ſhe is called to the heauens, then to ſtand ſecluded from the fauour of a proude diſdaineful dame, whileſt an other enioyes the fruite of his deſerued affections. But to returne to our purpoſe, Liurees

of onely colours, and also with colours and figures are wont to serue in effect, but for the shewe of one day, either at Iusts, Maskes, or other solemne festiuall sportinges, where are commonly assembled a great multitude of people: and to the end that Gentlemen and Gentlewomen (which giue the vew but as they passe by, among so great a companie) may not stande to muse about the intention of the subiect, there is vsed a mot to declare the meaning, & these kinde of mots pertayning to Liurees, are to bee composed in the same language which is there vsed where they are presented: and it is requisite they bee shorte so that they exceede not two of our verses: very rarely are they made of foure, yet so they may be if neede require. These mots so composed serue for colours alone, or els for colours accompanied with figures, or with figures alone: and when they shalbe ioyned with colours alone, yet are they called Liurees, when with colours, figures and the mot, which shall exceede three wordes being manifest of it selfe and seruing for no other purpose but to declare the signification of the colours and figures, they are likewise then called Liurees or Insegnes, and as I haue before sayd, they serue only for one day. These last properties rehearsed, that the mot may passe three wordes; and that it must be plaine and manifest, seruing onely to disclose the meaning of the colours and figures: note well, for therein consisteth the difference betweene Liurees and Impreses, which are altogether diuers. The ignoraunce of which distinction deceiued many in

the

the composing of Impreses. And also Iouius him self in his discourses following was greatly ouersene in putting no difference betweene Impreses, Liurees, and Insegnes, as you may plainely perceiue. This worde Insegne is taken from the Latin, by the which is signified Standards, Banners, and also the Helmets of the chiefe Souldiers and Captaines, as may appeare in this verse of Virgil.

Danaumque insignia nobis.

Aptemus Clypeos, but chiefly it is now taken for Standards or Banners, which are capable of all such properties mentioned before in Liurees, as either of colours alone, as when they are all red, all white, all blacke, &c. Or when they are of seuerall colours, as white and red, or in like maner of any other. To them also may bee added mots, as many notable men haue vsed of late time: & also colours with figures, or figures alone: all in such maner as hath bene shewne in Deuises or Liurees. The Ensigne is also fit for Impreses, of the which I am hereafter to speake, and many therein set the Armes of their house: whereof to recite examples this shorte Preface will not afforde, sith ech of them seuerally require a whole volume. only suffice it, briefly that we touch them, to the end we may the better vnderstande the forme of Impreses: which before I come to hãdle, it is necessary that I say somewhat of Mots, which truely are of great excellencie if they bee gallantly composed. And first this word mot signifieth as much as Gnome, a shorte sentence or Posie, whose places are diuers. Some

vse

vse to set them on gates, as that which (according to the fiction of the Poet) was set on Hell gate. Lasciate ogni speranza voi chi intrate. *Lay aside all hope, all you which enter in.*

A ridiculous mot or posie is not to be vsed but in some occasion of maskes, or to quip an enemy, as for example, a certaine Cardinal in Rome for some offence being imprisoned, and after put to death, it was bruted abroade, that the Pope had done it to pleasure two of his Nephewes *with his liuings, wherupon one liuely pictured the sayd Cardinall on the Crosse, and the two yong Cardinals preferred to his liuings, at his feet beholding him with this Posie in their hands,* Crucifixus etiã pro nobis. *But the mots which are chiefly vsed, are either amorus or graue, & they beare a great grace if they be perfectly cõposed with their circũstances & properties, so that they be short, & exceede not if it be possible a verse in any tongue. Yet Latin & Greek verses of six feete are to long to be vsed whole, wherefore of thẽ it is better to take a part, as* nullũ scelus error habebat. *And better are they esteemed being takẽ out of some famos autor. As out of* Ouid, Horace, Catullus *and other Latin* Poets, *out of* Homer, Hesidus, Callimachus, *or any good author of the* Greekes *out of* Petrarch, Deuine Arioſto, Dãte Bembo, *and other famous in the* Italian tõgue, *& aboue all, if it be possible, let them leaue some struple whereon to meditate, to him who either readeth or heares them, and it is lawfull to vse them without figures, although that* Paulus Iouius *vainly ter-*

meth

meth them so vsed, soules without bodies.

There is also another kind of Deuise called in Italian, Cifre celate, which many haue heretofore vsed being ignorant of Impreſe, which inuention is onely for youth, and very vnfit for men of grauitie, ſeruing thē but to ſport with their Ladies, by cōuaying their names into ſome Poſie or figure, which they ware in tokē of their ſeruice, of this kind you ſhal find fit examples in Paulus Iouius, which I haue noted in the Margent. The inuention is altogether barraine, and vtterly diſliked of the wiſe.

Thus hauing briefly touched the principall points of the former Deuiſes, it reſteth that I ſay ſomewhat of Impreſes, which is the moſt notable, ingenious and perfect king, of all other. And firſt to declare the ſignification of the worde, with the diffinition, I ſay, that Impreſa is vſed of the Italians for an enterpriſe, takē in hand with a firme & conſtāt intēt to bring the ſame to effect. As if a Prince or Captaine taking in hand ſome enterpriſe of war, or any other perticulare affaire, deſirous by ſome figure & mot to manifeſt to the world his intēt, this figure & mot together is called an Impreſa, made to ſignifie an enterpriſe, wherat a noble mind leueling with the aime of a deepe deſire, ſtriues with a ſtedy intēt to gaine the priſe of his purpoſe. For the valiāt & hautie gentlemen, diſdayning to cōioine with the vile and baſe Plebeians in any ruſtique inuention, haue procured to thēſelues this one moſt ſingulare, which time hath now at length perfited and rought into a more regulare order. And the chiefe places

Whereon

whereõ they vse to weare these their Impreses are their Standards, Shields, Helmets, Brooches, Tablets or such like. The time when, is either in Warres, Iusts, or amorous seruices. And you are to note, that Impreses are not Hereditarie, as are Armes, for the sonne may not vse the Impresa of father, nor the successors of their ancestors, and it behoueth that they be of no other colours, saue onely blacke and white, vnlesse it be rather to adorne them, then for any necessitie, and chiefly in the composing of them, are to be noted these fiue properties. First, that they haue not many kinds of different formes, for at the most there can be but three, in a perfect Impresa, vnlesse they be parts of the whole: as the Sunne, Moone and Starres represent onely the heauens, which may be the intent of the Impresa: or as many trees flowers and herbs, represent onely a Garden. As for example, a certayne gentleman figured a garden with Palmes, Bayes, Marigolds and Roses, with this mot. Tu hæc omnia, to signifie that his mistresse deserued the Palme for her beautie, & that she was free frõ the assalt of Loue as is the Lawrell frõ the wrath of the heauens, that she drewe the eyes of his mind after her, as doth the Sunne the Marigolde, and that by the vertue of her comfortable lookes she reuiued his heart, as doe the ioyful beames the blowming Rose. But now in any other case diuers formes are not to be vsed.

Secondly, the mot or posie of an Impresa may not exceede three words, vnlesse it be composed of some

ſome of theſe. Dum. Nec. Et. Non. In. Per. Aut. ſi. Cum. Vt. *and then may it haue foure, as* Nec ſpe nec metu.

Thirdly, that the mot be taken out of ſome famous author. This precept is good, but not alwayes neceſſarie.

Fourthly, that it be not altogether manifeſt nor too too obſcure, neither yet triuiall or common.

Fifthly, that the figure without the mot, or the mot without the figure ſignifie nothing, in reſpect of the intent of the author, and this precept is of great importance, for many ignorant hereof, haue compoſed Impreſe *altogether vayne and voyde of all inuention. As when the figure of it ſelfe or the mot of it ſelfe, ſuffice to declare the meaning, wherfore either the one or the other is ſuperfluous. As he which figured a Harte in the middeſt of fire, with this mot,* Il cuore ho in fuoco. *I haue my Harte in fire, or as he which depainted a* Cupid, *with his Bowe & ſhafts, & thereunto this verſe.* A gli ſtrali d' amor ſon fatto ſegno. *To* Cupids *ſhafts I am ornayned the Butte. Or not vnlike to that of him in* Iouius, *which figured a Chimney with a great fire and ſmoke, with this mot.* Doue è gran fuoco è gran fumo. *Where there is great fire, there is great ſmoke, in all which the mot without the figure, or the figure without the mot, might haue ſerued the purpoſe as well. But if vnto the fire & ſmoke had bene added this mot,* Vtrũq; ſimul, *the* Impreſa *had beene moſt perfect. The*

like

like defect had that of Borgia, which likewise Iouius doth mention, which was the mountayne Acroceraunii, wherunto, if in stede of feriunt summos fulgura montes had bene added Humiliora minus, or humiliora nunquam, therein had wanted no perfection. Iouius also addeth for a precept in the rules of Impreſe, that in them there ought to be no humayne forme, which precept is moſt true, if it be in the ordinarie and ſimple forme of a man, for that rarenes is rather delightſom: but yet when the humaine forme ſhalbe in a ſtrauge & vnaccuſtomed maner, it beareth a great grace. As did that of Sinior Bernabo Adorno, being inamored of a noble and vertuous Lady, who often certified him both by ſpeach and writing, that the arrowes of loue could not enter or paſſe farther then her gowne. Whercupon the Gentleman compoſed an Impreſa which was a Cupid, holding in one hand the vaile of his eyes, and in the other hand an Arcobuze ſettled to his breſt, as if he were readie to diſcharge it, and thereunto this mot. Hoc perageт. To ſignifie that he had omitted no ſeruice, deuotion, or loyaltie in his purſute, which are the onely maynſhotte of Loue, and are able to batter the bulwarke of a rigorous breaſt, and make the moſt flintie heart to yeeld.

Thus haue I in fewe words (gentlemen) declared the properties of a perfect Impreſa, to the end your choyce therein may be currant, ſith many deceiue themſelues with a counterfeit. And ſo wiſhing the happie ſucceſſe of all your vertuous Impreſes and

godly

godly pretences. I referre you to the reading of Paulus Iouius, *till time my ſtudies ſhall yeeld you a better preſent of the like ſubiect.*

S. D.

HERE BEGIN THE DISCOVRSES OF PAVLVS IOVIVS BISHOP of Nocera, in the forme of a Dialogue had betweene him, and *Ludouicus Domynicus*.

Dedicated to S. Cosmo Duke of Florence.

MVch is the curtesy of your highnesse towards mee, that I hold my selfe bound to render an accompt of the vacant leasure, which parely by your louely exhortations I haue enioyed in these parching and noysome heates of the fierie moneth of August, the enemy of moystles old age. And therefore hauing intermitted my History as a burthen more poderous, I resorted to take my pleasure in discourse & conference with that vertuous gentleman Maister *Ludouico Domynico*, (who also thereunto inuited mee) vpon the inuention of *Impreses*, borne at this day of great, and Noble personages. Whereupon this litle tract being composed, for that the subiect seemed delightsom and the varierie of the matter pleasant, I em-

boldened my ſelfe to commend it vnto you, deeming it to bee a meete recreation for ſo noyſome a ſeaſon. Reſembling herein your ſimple Gardiner, who on your Table repleniſhed with ſundry and coſtly cates, aduẽtureth to preſent you a bondle of his freſh flowres with Roſemary and Bourage, to ſerue among other meate for a ſauorie Sallade. This tract may well be compared to the diuerſitie of the foreſayd flowers, both gratefull to the vewe, and pleaſaunt to the taſte: which alſo I hope ſhalbe the rather accepted of you, for that it was brought foorth in your houſe. And afrer this maner had the argument of our preſent diſcourſe his beginning. Maſter *Lodouicus Dominicus* familarly accompanying mee in tranſlating my Hiſtory into the vulgar *Tuſcan* tongue, he happely entred into conference of *Inuentions* and *Impreſe*, which worthy gentlemen and noble Knights of our time beare (in token of their gentlemanly minds) vpõ their Veſtments, Shields, Bards, or Enſignes, to whome I anſwered.

Iou. The reaſoning on ſuch a ſubiect, may ſeeme as it were an entring into a vaſte ſea, from out the which there is no eaſie iſſue.

Dom. Vnder correction my Lord, you being a man of a quicke memory, prompt and of a preſent witte, let it pleaſe you to record a ſummarie of them, being now vnbuſied from writing your Hiſtorie in theſe vntemperate

dayes:

dayes: wherein a man laboreth wel if he preſerue him ſelf in health, neither can we better paſſe the time then in the delightſome reaſoning of ſuch pleaſant conceites, which agree with the forme of a Hiſtorie, renouating a ſweete memory of the notable men of our time, which already haue departed this life, not without their ſingular commendations. And this ſhalbe the more eaſie to you, hauing as I vnderſtand, your ſelfe in your freſh & floriſhing age compoſed many for ſuch gentlemen as requeſted them of you.

Iou. This ſhal I willingly doe on this condition, that you will euer now and then make interrogatiues, to which, I will willingly anſwere, to the end our propoſe may cary the forme of a dialogue.

Dom. I yeeld you infinite thankes for ſuch an offer, but firſt tell mee I pray you, whether the bearing of *Impreſe* be an auncient vſage or not. There is no doubt but that the aucients vſed to weare Creſtes & Ornaments on their Shields and helmets: which *Virgill* plainly diſcouereth when he reciteth the Catologue of the nations which came in fauour of *Turnus* againſt the *Troians* in the eight booke of his *Æne*. *Amphiraus* alſo as *Pindar*° reporteth, at the warre of *Thebes* bare *a Dragon* depainted on his ſhield. *Statius* writeth alſo of *Capaneus* & *Polinices*, whereof the one bare an *Hidra*, and the other a *Sphinx*. We reade alſo in *Plutarch*;

The originall & beginning of Impreſes.

how at the battel of the *Cimbri* ſemed in ſhew very gallant, as well for their ſiluer ſhining armour, as for the decked Creſts of their Helmets, wherein were repreſented the effigies of diuers ſauage beaſtes, depainted after diuers faſhions. The ſame author reporteth that *Pompey* the great did beare for his Enſeigne a *Lyõ* with a ſword claſped in his claw. We find alſo in the remaynes of old antiquities many to haue like ſignification to our moderne *Impreſes*, as appeareth in that of *Veſpaſianus*, which was a *Dolphin* intangled with an Anchore, with this poſie: *Feſtina lentè*. A ſentence which *Octauianus Auguſtus* was wont often to vſe. But leauing apart theſe examples of antiquitie: of this the famous *Palladines* of Frãce can yeld teſtimony, the which in trueth for the moſt part were not fayned, and we ſee, in that wherein the writers agree, that euery one of them had his peculiar *Impreſa* or Enſeigne. As *Orlando* the cheſſe, *Rinaldo* a *Lion*, *Deniſe* a *Ladder*: *Salomon* of *Bretaigne*, the *Eſchequier*: *Oliuer* a *Griffon*: *Aſtolphe*, a *Leopard*: *Ganelon* a *Faulcon*. The like wee reade of the Knights of the round Table, of *Arthure* that renoumed King of England. Thoſe which are famoſed in the Spaniſh hiſtories, as in *Amadis de Gaule*, *Primaleõ*, *Palmerin*, & *Tirante* vſed the like. And nowe in this later age, in the time of *Federicke* ſurnamed *Readbeard*, began the age of Enſignes of families, called Armes:

Make ſoft ſpeede.

giuen

giuen by Princes, in guerdon of honorable exploytes atchieued in the field. Whereupon there grewe such singulare and fantasticall inuentions or Ensignes and Pictures vpon Helmets, to enhaunce the honour of valiant Knights, as may well bee seene by diuers Pictures in the Church of newe Saint Maries at Florence. But now in our time, after the comming of Charles the eight, and Lewes the twelft into Italie, euery one which followed the warre, imitating the French Captaynes, sought to adorne himselfe with goodly & popous *Impreſe*, wherewith the troupes of horsemen being separated company fro company, made so resplendent shew, hauing their vpper garments embrodred with siluer bolled with beaten gold, and in their breast and back the *Impreſe* of their Captaines: in so much that the shewe of the men of Armes yeelded a very popouse & rich spectacle, & in the battel was tried the courageous force of their copanies.

Dom. I perceiue my Lorde that your memoty is fresh, and therefore may it please you to recount vnto mee of all such as you your selfe haue seen, because I know that you haue knowne all these Captaines by sight, which are contained & made famous in your historie, and perfectly hold imprinted in your memorie the brauery of their ornaments.

Iou. I will not faile to declare you all these things, and truely in delating hereof, I seeme

to my ſelfe to become a youth again, wherein thé ſo much I delighted that it ſeemed a preſage that I ſhould write their hiſtorie. But before I come to repeate the particulars, it is neceſſarie that I manifeſt the general properties which are required in making a perfect *Impreſa*: which is a thing very difficult, and proceedeth of a ſharp wit and rich inuention, nouriſhed by the worthy writings of auncient men. Kuowe you then (Maiſter *Lodouico*) that an inuention or *Impreſa*, (if it be to be accounted current) ought to haue theſe fiue properties. First iuſt proportion of body and ſoule. Secondly that it be not obſcure, that it needs a *Sibilla* to enterprete it, nor ſo apparant that euery ruſticke may vnderſtand it. Thirdly, that it haue eſpecially a beautifull ſhewe, which makes it become more gallant: to the yew, interſerting it with Starres, Sunes, Moones, Fire, Water, greene trees, Mechanicall inſtruments, fantaſticall birds. Fourthly, that it haue no humane forme. Fifthly, it muſt haue a poſe which is the ſoule of the body, which ought to differ in language from the *Idioma* of him which beareth the *Impreſa*, to the ende the ſence may bee the more couert. It is requiſite alſo it bee briefe, yet ſo that it may not breede ſcrupulous doubts, but that two or three words may fit the matter well, vnleſſe it bee in the forme of a verſe, either whole or maymed. And to make apparent

In an abſolute Impreſe are required theſe.

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theſe

theſe properties, you ſhal vnderſtand that the body and ſoule aboue mentioned, is meant either by the mot or by the ſubiect, and an *Impreſa* is accounted vnperfect when the ſubiect or body beare no proportiõ of meaning to the ſoule, or the ſoule to the body. As *Ceſar Borgia* Duke of *Valentia* vſed this ſoule without a body, *Aut Ceſar aut nihil*: Meaning hereby, that he would ſhewe his manhoode, and make trial of his fortune. Whereupon after he was vnfortunatly taken and beheaded in *Nouara*, *Fauſto Maddalena* a *Romaine* ſayd, that the poſie was verefied, in the laſt part of his Diſtich:

An Impreſe imperfect, Duplex. 1.

A ſoule without the body.

Borgia Ceſar erat factis & nomine Ceſar.
Aut nihil, aut Ceſar, dixit, vtrumq; fuit.

And truely in his greate and proſperous eſtate, the poſie was moſt wittie and worthie his Nobilitie, if it had bene applied to a proportioned Subiect, as was that of his brother *Don Franceſco* Duke of *Candia*, who had for his *Impreſa* the Mountaine *Chimera*, or *Acroceraunes* ſtrikē with the lightning of heauen, with theſe words out of *Horace*: *Feriunt ſummos fulmina montes*. Which likewiſe was verified in his vnhappie end, being ſtrangled and throwne into *Tiber* by *Ceſar* his brother.

The lightning hents the higheſt hilles.

Contrariwiſe, a faire bodie or ſubiect is as ill beſeeming if it bee without a ſoule, as was that of *Charles* of *Bourbon* Cõſtable of Frãnce, who bare depainted a Hart with wings: mea-

2. A bodie without a ſoule.

ning thereby that his naturall swift running was not sufficient, but that he would flye into euery difficult and daungerous hazarde. The which *Impresa* (albeit the beauty of the goodlie beast, which was pompouse) seemed yet blinde wanting a Posie, which should giue it light, which ministred occasion of sondrie interpretations: among which this one was most sharply giuen of a French Gentleman, called *Motta Augruing*, who attended on the Pope, when woful newes came of the discomfiture of the most Christian King at *Pauia*: & talking of the disloyaltie of *Bourbon*, sayd to Pope *Clement*: *Bourbon*, although he seemeth to be a betraier both of his King & Coūtrey, meriteth yet some excuse, in hauing shewen before what he ment to do by bearing in his Coate of Armes, a Hart with wings: meaning therby that he minded to flye into *Bourgonie*: which he could not doe with his feete, had he not had winges, and therefore this Posie was bestowed vpon him, *Cursum intendimus alis*.

The like defect had the *Impresa* of the Ladie *Hippolita Fioramonda* Marquise of *Scaldasole*, at *Pauia*, who farre excelled all the Gallants of our time both in beautie and amourous curtesie, who often wore in her Sky colored Sattin robes, Candleflyes all dispersed, wrought in embrodery of gold; but without a mot, warning thereby the amourous that they approach not too neere her fire, least it

happen

happen to them as it doth to that flye which ventureth so nere the flame that it burneth it self. And being requested of the Lord of *Lesse* (beeing a braue and valiaunt Knight, and at that time a practiser in the arte of Ryding) to manifest vnto him the meaning of this misterie: To whom she replied, It is conuenient for me to vse the like curtesie to Gentlemē which resorte to see me, as you doe to such as ride in your companie, being accustomed to put vnder the tayle of your Coursier a ratele or such like, to make him more fierce in yerking, to warne those which come nere you of the danger of his heeles, and to cause them keepe the more aloofe. Yet could not this caueat take place with my Lorde of *Lesse*, but that many yeares after he persecuered in his loue, and at the ende being deadly wounded in the fielde of *Pauie*, he was carried into the house of the Ladie Marquise: where he ended his life with great contentation, yeelding vp his last gaspe betweene the handes of his dearely loued Mistrisse and Patronesse, as he vsed to terme her.

The contrary deuice had the mot of the worthie Lawyer Master *Iason di Mainto*, who had engrauen ouer the gate of his Pallace this Posie without a bodie, *Virtuti fortuna comes*: signifying thereby that his vertue had happie fortune.

An *Impresa* may also be gallant in shewe by reason of the ornaments and colours, of both the

Proportion required.

the body and ſoule, and yet by meanes of the weake proportion, that the ſoule hath to the ſubiect: it becommeth ridiculous & obſcure, As that of the Duke *Lorenzo* of *Medici*, which was a Laurell tree betwixt two Lyons, with this mot: *Ita & virtus*. Signifying therby, that as the Laurell is euer floriſhing, ſo is vertue neuer fading: but none there were which could tell what the 2. Lyons imported. Some ſaid it repreſented Fortitude and Clemencie, in that they ſeemed to parle, their heads being ſo cloſely ioyned together: Others conſtrued it an other waie. At length one Maſter *Domitius da Cagli*, Chaplaine to the Cardinall of *Medici*, (who was afterward Clement the ſeuenth, and comming to viſite the Duke *Laurenzo*, who was ſick of a diſeaſe wherof ſhortly after he died) aduentured to demaunde of one Maſter *Philippo Strozzi*, being deſirous to vnderſtand the ſecrete of the *Impreſa*, inuited thereunto alſo by the Gentlemans courteſie, ſayd: Maſter *Philippo* you which are ſo skilfull in learning, and alſo Coſine and companion of the Duke, ſhewe me I praie you what meaneth theſe Lyons vnder this Laurell tree. Maſter *Philippo* looking aſkance on the Chaplaine, who although he were a gowned man, yet not ſo well grounded in learning that his knowledge reached beyõd his portois, made him this ſharpe and readie aunſwere: Vnderſtand you not (quoth he) that theſe Lyons do

garde

garde this Laurel, and defende it from the furie of ſuch Poets, which runne mad on a rumor, hauing heard of the inueſting of the Abbot of *Gaeta*, ſolemnized in *Rome*, & flocke ſo faſt to ſpoyle her of her braunches, to ſhew themſelues *Laureat*? The Chaplaine replied (who delighted to make certaine Sonnets to runne in dogrell rime) ſaying, As God helpe me it is done of very enuious malice: ſeeing that the Pope *Leo* hath curteouſly made *Laureat* the *Abbot Baraballo*, & that he hath cauſed him to triumph ouer the *Elephant*. Which thing came to the eares of the Cardinal, who greatly ieſted at *Domitio* as at a ſlender Poet, and an vnlearned Chaplaine.

Moreouer, we muſt haue regarde that it incurre not the ſuſpition of any great pride or preſumption, although both the ſoule & bodie bee ſound and perfect: for it eaſely diſcouereth the vanitie of the bearer. As did that of the great Cardinall of S. *George*, named *Raphael Riario*: who ſet in a thouſande places about his Pallace depainted a ſterne of a Ship, with this mot, *Hoc opus*. As who ſhould ſaie, I ſhould neede to be Pope or gouernour of the worlde, that makes ſuch gorgeous and magnificent buildings. Which deuiſe fel out moſt [illegible] when Pope *Leo* was created, and afterwarde being founde confederate in the conſpiracie with the Cardinall *Alphonſo Petrucci*) he was taken and conuicted, his goodes confiſcate, Not.

fiscate, & he himself banished to *Naples* where he ended his life.

These three which follow are called of the Italians Cifre celate, and not Impreſe, Composed onely of youth vnfit for grauitie, as hath bene shewed in the Preface

I tell you it were a greate point of folly to taxe the defects of *Impreſe* which are vſed in this age, being composed of the vndiscrete, and borne of mad braines, as was that of the fierce Souldier, (I will not saie Ruffion) *Sebaſtien del Mancino*, (which name was accomted at that time honorable among Fencers) who vſed to weare on his hat, a shoe sole, with the letter *T*. & a Pearle, which is called *Margherita*, in the middest of the sole, thereby to discouer his affection, and his Mistrisse name after this maner: *Margherita T e ſuola di cuor amo*. Margherit I soly loue thee.

Margerit I onely loue thee with my heart.

An other being his riuall called *Panmolena*, setting the same in beaten golde in steade of leather, therby seeming to inferre this *Margherita te adoro: Margherit I adore thee* (you must vnderstande that *adoro* in the Italian tongue, signifieth to reuerence or worship, and also to beautifie and decke with golde) supposing there to be greater efficacie, in I adore, then in this threedbare word, I loue thee.

Margherit I adore thee.

The like inuention was that of Master *Augustine Porco* of *Pauia*, inamoured of the Lady *Bianca Paltiniera*: who to shewe himself her faithfull seruaunt, vſed to weare fastened to his scarlet Bonet, a little Candle of white Waxe, to signifie, by deuiding this word *Candela*, which is in Englishe a Candle, into three

BIANCA signifieth white.

syllables

ſillables *Can de la* : *Can*, that is faithfull ſeruaunt, *de la Bianca*, of the *Bianca*.

CAN, a dog, a moſt faithfull ſeruaunt.

But much more ridiculous was that of *Canalier Caſio* the *Bologman* Poet, both for brauery and fine inuention, who wore in his hat, in a greate *Agate* the diſcention of the holie Ghoſt vpon the twelue Apoſtles: and beeing demaunded of Pope *Clement*, with whom he was very familiare, wherefore he wore this Doue, repreſenting the holy Ghoſt, and the fierie tongues vppon the heades of the Apoſtles, he anſwered, Not for any deuotion, but to expreſſe a conceipt of loue. For hauing bene of a long time inamored of a Ladie, and vngratfully handled of her, not able any longer to ſupport her craftie delaies, nor the expences beſtowed on preſentes and giftes, I figured the Feaſt of *Penticoſt*: meaning, I repēt of the coſt beſtowed of my Ladie. Vpō which expoſition the Pope (howbeit he were in other thinges ſeuere) laughed ſo vehemently that he roſe from the table at the middeſt of ſupper.

There were alſo in aūcient time, ſome worthie Perſonages which wanting the inuētion of ſuch like ſubiects ſupplied it with mots of their owne phantaſies, which became very ridiculous, as when they were to long. As was the mot of *Caſtruccio* Lord of *Luca*, when *Lodouico Bauaro* was crowned Emperour, & he made Romaine *Senator*, which was then a very

ry great dignitie, who wore openly in a Cremoſin Cloke this mot embrodered in his breaſt: *Egli é come dio vuole:* and aunſwerable to that behind was another, *E ſara quel che dio vorra.*

It is as God will.
And ſhalbe as God will.

The like fault of length had that of the Prince of *Salerna*, who builded the ſumptuous Pallace in *Naples*, on a Pinnacle: whereof in the fore front he erected a paire of hornes with this mot:

Porto le corna ch' ogni Huomo le vede,
E qualch' Altro te porta che vol crede.

In Engliſhe thus.

I weare the hornes which each man ſees by vewe:
Aud ſome man weares them to, which ſcarce he thinks is true.

Deſirous thereby to quip a certaine Nobleman, who talked diſhonorably of a Ladie, hauing himſelf a wife ſuſpected of her honeſtie. The length of theſe mots are the rather condēned, for that they are in the proper tōgue of him which weares thē. For that, as I haue ſaid, they better ſquare in a ſtraūge language.

Dom. My Lorde you haue euen reuined me with the ridiculous follies of ſo many *Impreſe*, as you haue recited vnto me.

Fou. It ſhalbe now therfore time that we returne to our purpoſe, recompting onely ſuch *Impreſe* which ſauour of magnanimitie, ſharpe inuention, and generoſitie. And

mem

meth vnto me, that theſe great Princes of the world (in hauing about their perſons men of ſingulare wit, and learning) haue gotten vnto them ſelues, the honour of ſuch inuentions: as amongſt other the Emperour Charles the fift, the King of Spayne, and Pope *Leo*. For that of the Emperour exceeded farr the *Impreſe* of his Grandfather by the mothers ſide the great Charles Duke of *Bourgenie*. And in my opinió that of the *Pillars* of *Hercules* with the mot, *Plus vltra*, not onely excelled in grauitie and braue inuention the Tinderbox of his ſayde Grandfather, but alſo all other which either Kinges or Princes haue borne to this daie.

Dom. In trueth theſe Pillars with their mot (conſidering the good fortune in the happie Conqueſt of the Weſt *Indies*, which eclipſeth the glory of the old *Romaines*) doth ſatiſfie the vewe, with the goodly ſubiect, and delighteth the minde of the conſiderate regarder, with the perfection of the ſoule annexed vnto it.

Jou. Maruaile not thereat, for the inuentor therof was an excellent man, named Maſter *Laigi Marliano* of *Millan*, Phiſition of the Emperour, and died Biſhop of *Tui*. And beſide other of his excellent qualities, he was a great Mathematician. For commonly theſe picked *Impreſe* ſpring not of light braines, but of rare wittes.

Dom.

Dom. The trueth you saie my Lorde, but tell me of fauour what you were about to saie touching the tinderbox of the Duke of *Bourgonie:* I praie you recompt vnto me the historie of this famous inuention, with the which the valerous troupes of worthie Knighres of this our age adorne them selues, who are of the honorable companie of the order of the Fleece, amplified by the inuincible Charles the fift.

Iou. This which you demaund is very intricate and of few knowne, yea hardly of many, which weare it about their necke: because thereunto is hanged the Fleece, interpreted of some the golden Fleece of *Iason* gotten by the *Argonautes.* And some referre it to the holy scripture, that it is the Fleece of *Gedeon,* which signifieth vnbroken faith. But returning to our purpose concerning the tinderbox of the valiaunt Duke of *Bourgonie,* who was fierce in armes, and vsed to weare the flint-stone with the steele and boxe, and two tronchions of wood thereby, to denotate, that he had power to kindle greate fires of Warre, (as the trueth is he did) but this his whole valure had a sorowfull succesſe. For taking in hand the warre against *Lorena* & the *Suiſſers,* he was (after receiuing two discomfitures) ouercome and slaine aboue *Nansi,* the Eauen of the *Epiphany,* and his *Impreſe* was skorned of *Renato* Duke of *Lorena,* who was tri-

triumpher in this conflict, to whom when his Enſigne was preſented, Truely (quoth he) this vnfortunate man when he had neede to warme himſelf, had no leaſure to vſe his tinderbox. Which ſaying was the more pithie, for that the ſame day of the battel, the earth was couered with Snow all died with blood, and it was the greateſt colde, that happened within the memorie of mã: In ſuch ſorte that it might be ſeene by the Duke, that the wauering Goddeſſe dayned not to accompanie his deuine manhood in theſe three laſt enterpriſes.

Dom. As farre as I perceiue my Lorde, you haue begun according to your promiſe, to enter into the choſen & picked *Impreſe*, which the worthies of our age doe weare. Whereupon, I hope that as our inuẽtions are more ſubtile, & our knowledge purified, in reſpect of that of former time: euen ſo our moderne deuiſes and *Impreſe* ſhall appere more gallãt, as proceeding of more flowing wittes. But before you proſecute your diſcourſe of theſe late *Impreſe*, I pray you ſith you haue recited the order of the Fleece, to declare vnto me in a word or two, the poſie which they of the Order in England doe weare.

Iou. Touching your demaunde, for that it is an ancient cuſtome commenced aboue two hundred yeres paſſed, this onely reporte remaineth: That the Order being inſtituted

A plaine crosse geules in the fielde argent.

by *Edward* the third (a magnanimous Prince) vnder the protection of S. George on horsbacke within a white Shielde, parted with a red crosse: the King by chaunce in gathering vp a garter from the ground, gaue occasion to a certaine Ladie whose garter it was, to murmur at it. Wherefore it pleased him in the honor of that Ladie, to ordaine that euerie Knight of the Order, which were wont to be sixe and twentie, should weare for an Ensigne about their legge the Garter with this inscription, *Honni soit qui mal y pense*.

But now returning to our time more enriched with singulare wittes, I saie that those Kings which of late haue bene, haue aduaunced them selues both in their warly enterprises, & also in the brauerie of their ornaments of *Impresc*, aboue the honour of their aunce-stors. And to begin with that of *Lewes* the twelft, King of Fraunce, which seemeth to all men, both of singulare beautie in shewe, and also of excellent sharpnesse in sence, for that it fitted the noble nature of that Martiall Prince, whom no toyle of Warre could euer tire, who with an inuincible minde caused to bee worne on the vpper garments of the Archers of his Garde, a Hedghogge crowned, which pricketh those, that come neere to anoy it, & casteth most sharp thornes at those which stande farther of: signifying thereby that his forces were readie nere at hand and

also

alſo abroad. On which ſubiect I remember to haue ſeene this mot, *Comminus & eminus.*

Nothing inferiour to that of *Lewes*, was the *Impreſa* which his ſucceſſor and Sonne in lawe Fraunces the firſt vſed to beare, who as his ſlipperie youth did leade him, chaunged the manly exploites of warre, with the weake pleaſures and effeminate delights of his fond loue. And to ſignifie that he fried in theſe paſſionat flames, wherein ſo much he gloried that he ſhamed not to ſaie, that he nouriſhed himſelfe in them. Whereupon he wore the *Salamander* in the flaming fire, with this mot, *Mi nutriſco:* being the proper qualitie of this beaſt to purge all her cold humors amõg the burning coales: wherby it commeth to paſſe that ſhe feareth not the force of the fire, but rather tẽperateth the heate thereof, or putteth it out. And trueth it was that this heroicall and curteouſe King was neuer without a loue, being notwithſtanding zelous in affecting, and liberall in rewarding the vertuous, and of courage valiaunt, againſt all the iniquities of Fortune (as the *Salamander*, againſt the force of the fire) in all chaũces, and warly euents: and this inuention was forged with the ſtampe of his owne braine.

I nouriſhe my ſelf.

Alſo that of his Sonne and ſucceſſor King *Henry*, is in all points comparable to the former, who cõtinued to beare the ſame *Impreſa*, which whilome he made beeing *Daulphin:*

which was the Moone Creſſant, with this braue mot carying great ſence: *Donec totum impleat orbem*. Signifying thereby, that vntill he amounted to the inheritance of the kingdome, he could not manifeſt his inward valure, as the Moone cā not yeeld her full light, vntill ſhe come to her perfect greatnes. And of this his noble mind the recouering of *Bologne*, and many other whorthy acts (which Italie can witnes) doe yeeld ſufficient teſtimonie. Wherefore at the earneſt requeſt of Sir *Mortier* the French Embaſſadour, after the death of Frauncis his father, I figured a full Moone al round, with this mot: *Cum plena eſt, ſit Emula Solis*, ſhewing that ſhee had ſo great brightneſſe, that ſhe equalled the ſonne, making the nights as cleare as the dayes. The king alſo meant hereby to yeeld ſome thing to the honour of a Lady vnder the name of *Diana*, who was accounted of the Auncients, the ſame goddeſſe with the Moone.

Dom. Without doubt theſe three *Impreſe* of theſe three Frēch kings, haue in my iudgement, all the excellencie required both in the ſubiect & outward ſhewe, as alſo in the ſoule. And I doubt whether the ſharpe witted Spanyard can come neere them.

Iou. And truely therein you are not deceiued, for it is a difficult thing any way to better them.

But the King of Spaine quitteth him ſelfe well

wel in bearing the *Gordiã* knot with the hãd of *Alexãder*, who with his Faulchion cut it in ſunder when hee could not vndoe it with his fingers: engrauing this mot aboue it, *Tanto Monta*. To the end you may vnderſtand the meaning of this prudent king, you neede to reade *Quintus Curtius*, how that in *Aſia* in the Citie of *Gordius*, there was in a Temple an inextricable knotte, & it was giuẽ out by the *Oracle*, that hee which could vntie the ſame, ſhould be lord of all *Aſia*. Whereupon *Alexander* cõming thither, and finding no way to vnloſe it, by fatall raſhnes, and in deſpite, cut it in peeces, & by that meanes *Oraculum impleuit aut eluſit*. The like hapened vnto the Catholique king: who hauing long ſtrife and contention about the kingdome of *Caſtile*, finding no way to attaine to his right, with ſworde in hand he aduentured, and gotte it, whereby this ſo worthy an *Impreſa* got great fame, and was adiudged of equall witte and learning with thoſe of Fraunce. Some men were of the opinion, that it ſprung from the ſubtile inuention of *Antonio Nibriſſa*, an excellent learned man, who is ſaid to reuiue the latine tongue in Spayne. But to ſay the trueth (although that many notable *Impreſe* haue ſprung from the worthy witttes of the Spaniards, as was that which *Don Diego* of *Mendozza*, a valiant and honorable knight, did vſe to weare in the warres of the great Capitaine

So much it excelleth.

Conſaluo Ferrante. Yet there haue bene ſome very vayne, and voyde of all ſuch properties as they ought to haue, as was that of the knight of the houſe of *Porres*, who being inamored of a Gentlewoman attendant on the Queene *Iſabell*, whoſe name was *Anna*, and fearing that ſhe ſhould marry with a certaine other knight farre richer then himſelfe, who ſought to winne her from him: he therefore counſayling her that ſhe ſhould remayne conſtant in her loue towards him, and not condeſcende in any caſe to the other, he wore on his Creſt depainted a Ducke, which in Spaniſh is called *Annadino*, which name deuided into ſillables, is after this maner, *Anna dino*. As much to ſay, as Anne ſay no.

Like vnto this alſo was that of *Don Diego* of *Guzman*, who hauing receiued a diſcourteous countenance at the hands of his Miſtres: wore in a triumphe at Iuſts, a great buſh of greene Mallowes: to denotate thereby that his loue went a croſſe: for *Malua* in Spaniſhe is the herbe Mallowe, and beeing diſtinctly written, *Mal ua*, is as much to ſay, as it goeth ill, the affayres of my loue haue no good ſucceſſe.

Dom. Theſe here agree well with thoſe ridiculous inuentions of the white Candle, and of Penticoſt. But I pray you ſhut vp theſe vanities with the worthy *Impreſa* of *Don Diego* of *Mendozza*, which whylome you ſayde to

be

be ſo commendable.

Ion. Yea, and peraduenture the onely one among thoſe which are exſtant, not only in Spayne, but els where. And this it was, that hauing ſounded the ford of his Miſtris phanſie, and finding the wharfe of her good will very difficult to atiue at: being driuen into dolorous affections, and as it were deſperate, inuented a wheele with buckets which draw vp water, and then caſt it forth againe: And for that half the buckets are full receiuing in the water, & half are emptie caſting it forth, he adioined this mot, * *Los llenos de dolor y, Los vazios de ſperanza*. This was eſteemed an *Impreſe* of ſubtile inuention, and almoſt ſingulare in outward vewe, becauſe the water and the wheele gaue to the beholders great light vnto the ſubiect, and ſeemed to inferre this, that his griefe was without hope of any remedie.

Thoſe that are full, carrie ſorrow, thoſe that are emptie, hope.

Worthie of Commendation was alſo the *Impreſa* of *S. Antonio da leua*: who beeing by reaſon of the Goute caried in his Chaire, cauſed this mot to be worne of his Captaine, ſet on the trappings and ornaments of his horſe, *Sic vos non vobis*: at ſuch time as Charles the fift was crowned in *Bologna*, and the Dukedome of *Millan* reſtored to *Franceſco Sforza*. And the mot was without a bodie, which if it had not, there could not haue bin a better. For that therby he ſeemed to ſhew, that how

by his vertue and manhood the state of *Millan*, was gotten and preserued, and after restored to the Duke by the Emperour, being desirous to retaine it to himself, contrary to the order of the league, as he had done before.

And because I am to prosecute the order of the Nobilitie, I wil recite vnto you the *Imprese* of the fower last Kings of *Aragona*: and amongst other what the opened Booke doth signifie, being the *Impresa* of *Alphonsus*; which hauing no soule of any mot at all, caused many to doubt of the signification. And for that the King was of incomparable knowledge, as well in feates of Armes as faculties of learning, and also excellēt in the practise of ciuile gouernment: some sayd one thing, and some another: but most mēthought he ment therby, that libertie was the most precious thing that a man might haue, and therefore he himself as most prudent, neuer tooke any to wife, therby not to make him seruant to his owne choyce. Some sayd he bare the Booke to signifie that the perfection of the intelligence of man, cōsisted in the knowledge of the Sciēces and liberall Arts, in the which he himself was very studious. But to let passe the significations of this Booke, I saie that *Ferrante* his Sonne bare a worthie *Impresa*, which began vpon the rebellion of *Marino di Marciano* Duke of *Sessa*, and Prince of *Rossana*, who although he were Cosin to the King, notwithstanding

ſtanding did confederate with Duke Iohn of *Anjo*, to procure the death of his Lord and King being at Parliament: but by meane of his hardineſſe and noble courage, the trecherous purpoſe could take no effect. The hiſtorie of this euēt remaineth engrauen in Braſſe on the gate of *Caſtel nuouo*. And after a time *Marino* being taken & caſt into priſon, he reſolued with himſelf not to put him to death: ſaying, that he would not embrue his handes in the blood of his owne kindred, (albeit he were vngratefull) contrary to the expectation & will of many his freends, and Counſailers: and in token of this his noble mynd and clemencie, he figured an *Armelui* compaſſed about with a bancke of dung, with this mot, *Malo mori quam fœdari*: being the proper nature of the *Armelui* rather to periſhe by hunger and thirſt, then by eſcaping through the mire to defile her ſelf, and ſpot the poliſhed white of her precious ſkin.

That alſo of *Alphonſus* the ſecond his Sonne was braue, but very extrauagant, as being compoſed of ſillables of the Spaniſh tongue. And it was after this maner, that the daie drawing nere of the battell of *Campo Morto*, againſt the *Velletri*, to exhorte his Captaines & Souldiers, depainted in his Standard three diadems of Saincts ioyned togethet, with this worde *Valer* in the middeſt, to ſignifie that that day they ought to ſhewe their manhood

abone all other : pronouncing it after the Spanish maner, *Dia de mas valer*: a day of greater valure.

Right notable in trueth was that of *Ferandino* his Sonne, who being induced with these noble and Princely qualities, liberalitie and clemencie, and to shewe that these qualities were of nature & not arte: he figured a moũtaine of *Dyamants*, which growe all as naturally of them selues, as if they were fashioned by workmanship and arte : hauing this mot, *Naturæ non artis opus*.

Neither was that lesse commendable of King *Federicke* Vncle to *Ferandino*, who succeeded him in his Kingdome (being by the spareles *Parca*, depriued of life) & taking possession of the Kingdome, beeing weakened with the late warres, & enfeeblished with the factions of those of *Anion*, to assure the Nobilitie of the contrary parte of his fauour, he did beare figured in forme, a Booke of accomptes, with leather stringes and buckles, after the maner of the Bankers bookes, setting for the title 1485. & represented flames of fire to arise by the margents of the Booke being closed, with a mot of the holy Scripture: which was this, *Recedant vetera*. To shew by this his worrhie inuention, that he pardoned all men their misdeedes and offences for that yeare. And herein he immitated the auncient *Athenians* which made the lawe of

Amnestia:

Amneſtia: which ſignifieth obliuion or forgetting all which is paſt. Yet this did little profite the good King *Federicke*. For within fiue yeres by the vnpreuented conſpiracie of *Ferdinando* King of Spaine, with *Lewes* the 12. of Fraunce, he was enforced to abandon his Kingdome, and leaue it to theſe two Kinges, who deuided it amongſt them.

There were other Princes of Italie and famous Captaines, who delighted to ſhew their conceiptes in *Impreſe*, & ſuch deuiſes, amongſt the which, was worthely eſteemed that of *Franceſco Sforza* Duke of *Millan* (at that time wherein theſe ſharpe inuentions were not ſo rife) who hauing taken poſſeſſion of the ſtate, by meanes of the right of his wife, *Madonna Bianca Viſcont*, and by force of Armes apeaſed all troubles, cauſed to be embrodered on his Coate armour, a Maſtiffe or Greyhoūd crouching on his hinder legges, & ſtanding vp before, vnder a Pine tree, with this mot, *Quietū nemo impune laceſſet*, to ſignifie that he would not moleſt any man, but that he was readie to offend, and defend himſelf, if any dared to oppoſe them ſelues againſt him: whereof he māde triall againſt the *Venetian* Nobilitie, (whiles he held quiet the King *Renato* of *Prouince*) in repreſſing the greedie deſire which they ſeemed to haue of that ſtate.

Very like vnto the former deuiſe in beautie, was the obſcure *Impreſa* of *Galeazzo* his

Sonne

Sonne and Succeſſor, which was a Lyon with an Helmet on his head, ſitting on a great fire. Very fayre was the picture to the vewe, but yet reputed without a good inuention, being without a mot, and hardly vnderſtoode of the author himſelfe: wherefore I will not ſtraine me with the repeating of the diuers interpretations which were giuen of many, whereof ſome were vayne and ridiculous.

But yet very learned and of a gallant ſhew, was that of his brother Duke *Lodonico* (although too too preſumptuous) who was, for the opiniõ men had of his wiſdome, on a time choſen the Iudge and arbiter of the Peace & Warre of Italie, & thereupõ he bare the Mulbery tree, (called in Italian *Celſo moro*) for his *Impreſa*: which as *Plinie* ſaith, is accounted *ſapientiſſima omnium arborum*, becauſe it bloometh late, to auoyde the pinching froſts, and ripeneth her fruit very ſoone. As who ſhould ſay, he knewe by his wiſdome, what fortune the future times would bring. But his wit failed him when he called the French men into Italie, to warre againſt the King *Alphonſus* his deadly enemy, which were after the cauſe of ruine: and ſo became his great wiſedome to deriſion, ending his life, impriſoned in the Towre of *Loches* in Fraunce, a fit example of the miſery and vaine glory of man.

Hee cauſed him ſelfe alſo to be ſurnamed *Moro*. And when he paſſed the ſtreetes, a man might

might here the voice of children and apprentices crying aloude, *Moro, Moro*: And continuing in his like vanities, he cauſed to be depaynted in the Caſtle, Italie in the forme of a Queene, inueſted with a golden robe, wherein were embrodered all the chiefe Cities of Italie, according to their right ſemblance: and before her ſtanding a wayting blacke *More*, with a Bruſh in his hand. Whereat on a time the Ambaſſadour of *Florence* meruciling, demaunded of the Duke, to what ende ſerued this blacke Page which bruſhed the robe and the cities. To whome the Duke anſwered, To cleanſe them from all filth, to giue him to vnderſtand, that the *More* was iudge of Italie, to order her as he thought good. Nowe the ſharp witted Florentine perceiuing his drift, ſayd, Take heede Sir that this *More* bruſh not ſo long, that he bruſh al the duſt on him ſelfe: wherein he foretold the trueth. And here you are to note that many thinke that this *Ledouico* was called *More*, for his browne skinne and blacke face, but they are deceiued, for rather was he of a white & pale cõplexion, then in any part black as we our ſelues haue ſeene.

But that excelleth not onely the *Impreſe* of the Princes of Italy, but alſo thoſe of the houſe of the *Medici*, his predeceſſors, which Iohn the *Cardinal* of *Medicis* inuẽted, who afterward was Pope *Leo* being reſtored vnto *Florence*, by the force and power of the Spa-

nyardes,

nyards, hauing bene before eightene yeres in exile. His *Impresa* was a yoke, which Oxen vse to beare, and the mot *Suaue*, signifying thereby that he was not returned to tyrãnise ouer his country, nor to reuenge the iniuries done him of his enemies, and factious citizens: But rather to shewe that his gouernment shoulde be gentle with al clemencie, with the mot out of the scripture answerable to his Priestly habit, taken out of this place: *Iugum meum suaue est, & onus meum leue*. And truely it was very congruent to his nature, and proceeded from the sharpnes of his own learned wit: although it seemed that the yoke came first from the great *Cosimo*, who whē he was recalled to his country from exile, figured the cittie *Florence* sitting on a Chayre, with a yoke vnder her feete: to shew thereby as it were that saying of *Cicero*, *Roma patrem patriæ Ciceronem libera dixit*, and for the excellencie hereof, it continued to be worne vnto the time of Pope *Leo*, and merited to be instamped in the coyne of *Florence*.

Dom. This *Impresa* doth greatly delite me, and in my iudgement is very notable: but of fauour I pray you, let it please you to recount others of the most famous house of *Medicis*, & in thē to touch diffusedly, both the deuise and also the Historie, which shall notably explane them, and bring great delight to this your discourse.

Iou.

Iou. I cãnot go beyond the three Diamãts which the great *Coſimo* did beare, which you ſee engrauen in the chamber wherein I lye. But to tell you the trueth, although with all diligẽce I haue ſearched, yet cãnot I find preciſely what they ſignifie, & thereof alſo doubted Pope *Clemẽt*, who in his meaner fortune, lay alſo in the ſelfe ſame chamber.

And trueth it is that he ſayd, the *Magnifico Lorenzo* vſed one of them with greate brauerie, inſerting it betweene three feathers of three ſundrie colours, greene, white, and red: which betokened three vertues, Faith, Hope, and Charitie, appropriate to thoſe three colours: Hope, greene: Faith, white: Charitie, red, with this worde, *Semper*, belowe it. Which *Impreſa* hath bene vſed of all the ſucceſſors of his houſe, yea, and of the Pope: who did beare it imbrodered on the vpper garments of the horſmen of his garde, vnder that of the yoke.

The *Magnifico Pietro*, Sonne of *Coſimo*, did beare a Faulcõ with a Diamond in her talent, And the ſame was vſed alſo of Pope *Leo*, and Pope *Clement* likewiſe, with this mot *Semper*, applied to the title of religiõ, which the Popes profeſſe, although it bee, as is aboue ſayde, a fooliſh thing to compoſe mots of ſillables, or ſingle words. The *Magnifico* woulde haue to bee vnderſtoode hereby, that euery thing ought to be done to the will and pleaſure of God, and the better doth it fit this purpoſe,

for

for that the Diamant is of so inuincible fortitude both against the fire and stroke of the Hanimer: as was most miraculously this *Magnifico*, against the conspiracies and trecheries of M. *Luca Pitti*.

The *Magnifico Pietro*, Sonne of *Lorenzo*, as a youth and inamored, vsed to beare for his *Impresa*, great Billets of greene wood, set one vpon the other, which seemed to cast forth flames and smoke from the fire within, signifying that his enflamed affection, was the more vehement, for that the wood wherwith it burned, was yet greene. And this was the inuention of that learned man *Angelus Politianus*, who made thereunto a mot contayning this latin verse:

In viridi teneras exurit flamma medullas.

The *Magnifico Iulian* his brother, a man of good nature and excellent witte, who was afterward Duke of *Nemors*, hauing taken to wife the Neece of the King of Fraunce, Sister to the Duke of *Sauoy*, to shewe that fortune which was so many yeres aduerse vnto him, now began to turne her fauour towards him, he caused to bee set in a shield of triangular forme, this word of sixe letters, *GLOVIS*: which turning backward, you may read *SIVOLG*. And because it was iudged obscure and vayne in sence, many of his affectioned seruantes, interpreted euery letter seuerally by it selfe, whereby arose as many diuersities

It turneth.

of

of opinions, as did among them in the Coū-cell of *Baſile*, who interpreted the name of *Pope Felix*: ſaying, *Felix id eſt falſus eremita Indificator*.

And becauſe we haue aboue ſpoken of the *Impreſe* of *Lorenzo*, it ſhal not be amiſſe, to ſay ſomewhat of that of *Pope Clement*, which wee ſee depainted in euery place, and was inuented of *Dominico Boninſegni Florentine* his treaſorer, who ſearched the ſecrets of nature, and foūd that the Sunne beames paſſing through a peece of Chriſtall, beeing ſo ſtrengthened through their vniting, according to the nature of the *Proſpective*, that they burne euery obiect, ſauing only things paſſing white. And *Pope Clement* willing to ſhewe to the worlde that the puritie of his minde, could not bee contamined, by the malicious neither by any force, vſed this *Impreſe*: when his Enemies in the time of *Adrian*, ſought to bereaue him both of life and dignitie, which conſpiracie thei brought to no effect. The *Impreſa* became very notable and renowmed, becauſe therein were all thinges which might make faire apparance to adorne it, which were theſe: a roūd peece of Chriſtall, the Sunne with his beames paſſing through, the flame proued by them, all ſet in a white hood, with this mot, *Candor illeſus*. Yet for all this, was it very obſcure to thoſe which knewe not the propertie aboue ſayd. Wherefore it needed that wee his ſer-

uaunts should to each man desirous to know the same expounded, and make manifest what *Borinsegni* and the Pope ment thereby: which obscuritie ought to be shunned in an *Impresa*, as is before declared. And it was the more intricate for that the mot was deuided by syllables, as this, *Can dor ille sus*. One Master *Simon Schianone* Chaplaine to the Pope, who had no more learning then would serue him to mumble vp a Masse, all meruelling at the Posie, demaunded of me, what the deuill, the Pope ment thereby, which as he thought serued to no purpose: For (quoth he) *ille sus* signifies, that Sowe: and repeting it oftentimes, *ille* is that, & *sus*, is sure a Sowe, as I haue learned in the Grammer Schoole at *Sebenico*, and therefore must needes be that Sowe. Vpon this arose great laughter, & the matter came to the Popes eares, who gaue aduertisement not to deride it by letters to anoyde the like errors of *Amphibologia*, committed by such foolishe interpreters.

That also of *Hippolito* Cardinall of *Medicis*, although it was very goodly both in shew and substance, yet had it some defect: for that none could throughly vnderstand it saue only the learned, & such as were very well seene in the Poems of *Horace*: for being desirous to signifie that the Ladie *Iulia Gonzaga*, excelled in beautie all other women, (which is not vnknowne to our age, who for her chast condi-

tions,

tions, and excellent vertues doth reuerence her) he figured a Comet, whereof ſaith *Plinie*, *Auguſtus* did write, that in the time of the Feaſtes, which he ordained to bee celebrated to *Venus*, a fewe daies after the death of *Iulius Cæſar*, appeared in the Septentrionall parts of the heauens ſhining ſo bright the ſpace of ſeuen daies to euery Region, that it began to appeare an howre before Sunne ſetting. The common people thought this Starre to ſignifie, that the ſoule of *Iulius Cæſar* was receiued into the cõpanie of the immortall Gods: which was the occaſion that *Auguſtus* placed the ſigne of this Commet on the top of the Staine, which he had erected in the *Forum* for his adopted Father Whervpon, *Horace* vſeth theſe wordes to the honour of *Iulius Cæſar*.

Micat inter omnes Iulium ſydus
Velut inter ignes Luna minores.

So *Hippolito* taking out theſe verſes onely *Inter omnes*, vouchſafed to vſe it as a mot to honour this moſt vertuous and renoumed Lady. And in the *Impreſa* being the figure of a Comme: it ſeemeth that it was to prognoſticate the doleſull death of the Cardinall, which peraduenture the fearefull ſtarre did threaten, who being conſtrained to paſſe frõ *Greece* into *Affrica* to the Emperour, who lay then at *Tunis*, by the way to the great diſcomfiture and griefe of all his frends died at *Iris* Caſtle, which was then in the poſſeſſion of the

Lady *Iulia Gonzaga*.

He had alſo before, another *Impreſa* of the Eclipſe, figuring the Moone in the ſhadowe, which happeneth by reaſon of the interpoſition of the earth betweene the ſunne and it, with this mot, *Hinc aliquando eluctabor*. Signifying thereby that he was placed in the darknes of certayne obſcure and troubleſome thoughts and imaginations, from which hee ſtriued to iſſue forth, but in ſhewing what they were, becauſe they ſeeme impure, and ſcarce honeſt, and becauſe I will not doe preiudice to ſo worthy a mā, neither to the worſhip of his houſe, I leaue to explicate the meaning of the *Impreſa*, which ſhall notwithſtanding be vnderſtoode of many which remember the man.

After the death of the Cardinall the Duke *Alexander*, hauing maried *Margherit* of *Africa*, daughter to the Emperour, and gouerning *Florence* with equale iuſtice agreeable to the citizens: ſeeing himſelfe gallant and able of perſon, was deſirous to make himſelfe renounied by the warres, ſaying, that to get glory and in taking the Emperours part, hee would couragiouſly enter into euery difficult and dangerous enterpriſe: reſolute in this, either to win honour with praiſe, or loſe his life in perill. And hereupon on a day earneſtly requeſted mee to deuiſe him ſome notable *Impreſa* to weare on his cote Armor. And I choſe him

him out the wild beaſt *Rhinoceros*, the deadly enemy of the *Elephant*, which being ſent to Rome by *Emanuel* King of *Portugale*, who fought with it, comming by *Prouince* where it was ſeen being ariued on the land, and afterward drowned by hard fortune, amongſt the rocks a litle aboue *l'orto Venere*, (for it was not poſſible that ſuch a beaſt could ſaue it ſelf being chayned, albeit it ſwam miraculouſly among the ſharp rocks, which are all alóg that coſte) yet notwithſtãding there was brought to Rome, his true portrature, and greatnes in February 1515 with information of his nature: the which as *Plinie* ſaith, and the *Portugals* affirme, is to goe and finde the *Elephant*, and aſſaulting him, ſtriketh him vnder the panch with a hard and ſharpe horne which it hath growing on his ſnout, neither doth hee euer depart from his enemy, nor from fight, til he hath weried and ſlaine him, which moſt often falleth out: vnles the *Elephant* with his long ſnout doe take him by the throte, and in cloſing doe ſtrangle him. The forme of this beaſt in goodly embrodery ſerued for the couerture of his *Barbarie* horſes: which ran in Rome for the price or maſterie, with this mot in the Spanigh tongue: *No buelle ſin vincer*: I retourne not without victory, according to this verſe, *Rhinoceros nunquam victus ab hoſte recedit*. This deuiſe pleaſed him ſo, that he cauſed it to be engrauen in his breſt plate.

I warre not but I win.

Dom. Sith you haue rehearsed the *Impreses* of the noble Princes of the house of *Medicis* which are dead, let it please you to say somewhat of those, which the worthy Duke *Cosimo* was wont to weare, of the which we haue seen so many in the Pallace of the foresayde *Medicis*.

Jou. In trueth I sawe many the day of his mariage, which seemed to issue from worthy wittes, Whereof one aboue all pleased me, for that it was fitly applyed to his highnes, who hauing *Capricornus* for his *Ascendent*, as also *Augustus Cæsar*, as witnesseth *Suetonius*. And therefore caused the Image thereof to be instamped in his Coyne. This beast seemed vnto me very congruent to the purpose, for that Charles the fifth, vnder whome the princely estate of this Noble Duke florished, had likewise the same ascendēt. And it seemed a thing fatall, that the Duke *Cosimo* the same day of the *Calends* of August, wherein *Augustus Cæsar* obtayned the victory ouer *Antonius* and *Cleopatra* at the promontory *Atticum*, the same day he discomfited and tooke his enimyes on the mountayne *Murlo*. But this *Capricornus* hauing no Posie: I adioyned thereunto this mot: *Fidem fati virtute sequemur*. To this sence I wil striue with mine owne vertue, to atchiue that, which the *Horoscopus* doth promise me. And so I figured the starres of that Constellation in the Chamber ordeyned for the honor

of

of the Duke. Which *Impreſa* you haue ſeene in my Study, where is alſo the Eagle which ſignifieth *Iupiter* and the Emperour, who holdeth out in her beake a triumphant Crowne, with this mot: *Iupiter Merentibus offert*, ſignifying that his highnes deſerued eche glorious reward for his worthy vertues.

He bare alſo another in the beginning of his gouernment, learnedly deuiſed by the reuerend Maſter *Piea Franceſco de Riui*: and it was that which *Virgil* ſpeaketh of in the *Æn.* of the golden Bowe, with this mot: *Vno auulſo non deficit alter*, ſignifying a bowe rent from the tree, in the place whereof ſuddenly ſucceeded another, meaning thereby, that the Duke *Alexander* was not ſo ſoone departed this life, but that there was another of the ſame golden lyne ready to ſucceede him.

Dom. It ſeemeth vnto me my Lord that you haue ſufficiently touched thoſe which apertayne to the houſe of *Medicis*: It therefore remayneth, that you nowe ſpeake of other Princes and famous Captaynes, which you your ſelfe in your time haue knowen.

Iou. I will not faile herein, and now you haue pleaſauntly pricked me forwardes, you make me call to minde many thinges pertinent to this purpoſe, which now I wil diſburthen to doe you pleaſure and ſatiſfie your deſire: ſith the number of ſo many *Impreſe* are tedious vnto you.

Dom. This memorie of yours cannot seeme yrksome to any man of iudgement, nor tedious to those which delight in these Gentlemanlike discourses, and let not this extreme heate which alreadie maketh you to sweate, (although we are set in a freshe & ayrie place) be any excuse to cause you to breake of your talke.

Iou. Well, sith it is your pleasure, I am content to begin with the valiaut troupe of Captaines, which you haue sene renowmed in our historie. And me seemeth that the honor of Rome requireth of desert that we begin with the Romaines, because they haue in effecte borne awaie the mainprise of picked Souldiers, as the inheritors of the auncient vertue of their Countrey. Amongst whom in my daies the two principal Famelies, chief of the auncient Faction *Guelfa* and *Gebellina*, which were called *Vrsini* and *Colonesi*, haue had each of them two most renowmed: The Famely of *Vrsina* had *Vergimo* and *Nicola*: the *Colanesi*, *Prospero*, and *Fabritio*. *Vergimo*, in authoritie, riches, multitude of Souldiers, & in the magnificence of his house, being Captaine of all the Primates of *Italie*, ascended to the tipe of Dignitie: from which againe he fell, after the comming of King Charles into *Italie*, being taken with the Earle of *Pitigliano* at *Nola* by the French men, deceiued by the promise of the *Nolans* and by *Lewes d' Arsio* the French Captaine,

Captaine, and was kept priſoner vntill the ſedicious vprore hapned in the French Campe at *Tarro*, wherein he finely eſcaped the hands of thoſe which garded him, being as then buſied about greater matters. Now the *Coloneſi* being vnder the conduct of the Cardinall *Aſcanio Sforza*, who at the beginning ſerued the French men: and being made a newe league betweene the Princes of *Europe*, they retourned to the ſeruice of the King *Ferandino*, *Proſpero* firſt, and then *Fabritio*, vowing themſelfe *Aragonians*.

Verginio alſo was inuited to go ſerue the ſame King, being offered a great pay, and to be recompenced with offices of honour and dignitie, as to be high Conſtable, which office was afterward geuen to S. *Fabritio*, with the gouernment of *Abruzzo Alba*, and *Tagliacozzo*: but he iudging it not beſeeming his honour, wilfully condiſcended to the French, and rather accepted of their pay: although therein the *Vrſini* vtterly diſliked his determination, becauſe it might be preiudiciall to the honour and ſtate of Italie, which then began againe to conſpire againſt Fraunce, fearing leaſt it ſhould become ſubiect to ſo puiſſant a nation. But he hardened with a fatale obſtinacie, addreſſed himſelfe with many other Captaynes of the ſame conſpiracie againſt king *Ferandino*: anſwering thoſe which diſſwaded him to the contrarie (as the ſeruants

uants of the Pope, of the Duke *Lodouico*, and of the Lordes of *Venice*, who shewed him the daunger hee wilfully cast himselfe into, and therewithall willed him to waigh what great rewardes and benefites were offered him) sayd, I am like vnto the Camell, whose nature is this, that comming to a cleare riuer, drinks not of the water vntill first hee hath fouled it by trampling with his feete. And therefore I beare a Camell troubling a Riuer with this French mot, *Il me plait la trouble*. But his rash determination had rufull end. For being ouercome in this conflict besieged in *Atella*, and at length taken, died in prison in the Castell of *Ouo*. This receiued he the punishment of his peruerse enterprise.

Trouble doth please me.

The Earle of *Pitigliano*, being in pay with the Lords of *Venice*, in the warres of *Lombardie*, had for his *Impresa* a coller of Iron, called in Latin *Mullus*, set ful of sharpe prickes, as we see about the necke of the Sheepheards Mastiues to defende them from the biting of the Wolues, with this mot, *Sauciat & defendit*. albeit this *Impresa* is to be seene at this daie at *Rome*, in the Pallace of *Nicosia* in possession of the *Sors* of the house of *Vrsina*: and in the middest of this coller is this Posie, *Prius mori quam fidem fallere*: there also are figured two handes, which seeming to take holde of the Coller, are pearced with the sharpe prickes which are set thereupon: and in the middest

there

there is depainted a Roſe.

To the other former *Impreſe* are nothing inferiour thoſe of the other two Brethren the *Colonneſi*, *Proſpero* and *Fabritio*, who at diuers times had ſondry inuentions: ſome Militarie, and ſome amorous, according to their phantaſies. For both of them euen to extreme old age thought it no ſhame to be amorous, and eſpecially *Proſpero*, who hauing placed his affection on a noble Ladie, vnto whoſe companie (to diſſemble the ſecrete fauour which he receiued, and to auoyde ſuſpition) he aduentured to bring a freende of his: which thing was vnaduiſedly done, conſidering that wome are almoſt all generally deſirous of choice and chaunge, of whom ſhe became inamoured, deeming him worthy the poſſeſſiō of her perſon: which *Proſpero* perceiuing, and thereby receiuing no ſmal diſcomfort, he tooke to his *Impreſa* the Braſen *Bull* of *Perillus*, who was the firſt which experienced the torment that he him ſelfe had inuented, being commaunded to be put therein (by the Edict of the tyrant *Phalaris*) and a great fire to be kindled vnderneath, where with yelling cries he ended his miſerable life. And this did *Proſpero*, thereby to ſignifie, that he himſelf was the cauſe of his owne misfortune. And the mot was this. *Ingenio experior funera digna meo.*

My ſelf was cauſe of my owne misfortune.

Dom. Mee ſeemeth the foule of this gallant inuention had bin farre better after this

maner,

maner, *Sponte contractum inexpicabile malum: Iou.* Truely that of *Fabritio*, excelled for braverie, who perseuering in taking the French part, although inuited with promise of great rewardes, to participate with the whole consent of *Italie*, yet at the first he refused it, and therupon tooke for his *Impresa* a vessell made after the auncient forme, with this mot, *Samnitico nō capitur auro:* to signifie that he would not bee corrupted with coyne no more then was that *Fabritius* the aūcient Romaine, with the profered golde of the *Samnites*, who were in league with *Pyrrhus*.

He also did beare an other, very commendable, which was the Touchstone, with this mot, *Fides hoc vno, virtusque probantur:* to importe that his vertue & faith should of al men bee knowne by touch and triall. This did he weare at the cōflict of *Rauenna*, where his valiaunt courage was manfully shewen, albeit he was there wounded and taken prisoner.

In the same warre *Marc' Antonio Columno* Nephewe to *Prospero*, who lay in garrison defending the Citie *Rauenna*, where he worthely behaued himself against the violent rage & terrible battery of *Mounf. de foix*, had a bowe of Palme wrethed with a bow of Cipres, with this mot, *ERIT ALTERA MERCES:* Meaning that he went to the warres either to winne victorie or loose his life. The Palme being borne in signe of Victorie, and

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the Cipreſſe worne at Funeralles. This man had all the giftes which either nature or fortune might beſtow, to make a man ſingulare.

The ſame *Marc Antonio* wore alſo an other in the warres of *Mirandola* and *Bologna*, wherein the Cardinal of *Pauia* was Legate, of nature proude and imperious, and the loftie minded Romaine not yeelding to be cõtrolled, but would execute euery duetie which pertayned to the warres himſelf, the rather for that he perceiued the Cardinall to vſe diſhoneſt dealing with the Duke of *Vrbin*, therfore he was after ſlaine of him. To manifeſt his noble minde he vſed for his *Impreſa* the *Heron*, which bird in the time of raine flyeth ſo hie aboue the Cloudes, that ſhe eſcapeth the wett, to the ende it may not fall on her back, and yet naturally vſeth to bathe her in the little ſtreames, content to haue the water vnder her, but not that it ſhould fal vpon her. The *Impreſa* was very delightſome to beholde: for beſides the braue ſhewe of the bird, there was figured the Sunne aboue the Cloudes, the birde betweene the Sunne and the Cloudes, in the middle region where raine and hayle are ingendred, belowe were Marish groundes with Sedge & other greene hearbes, but aboue all it was adorned with this goodly mot about the necke of the *Heron*, *Natura diſtante feror*.

I remember alſo an other which he vſed

(as

(as one which greatly delighted in these ingenious inuentions) in the warres of *Verona*: which Citie was valiauntly defended by his manhoode, against the force of both the French and Venetian Campes, which was a vesture in the middest of the fire, which notwithstanding burned not, as made of that Lint of *India*, which *Plinie* called *Albestin*, which maie bee purged from spots in the fire & not consumed, and it had this mot, *Semper pertinax*.

S. *Mutio Colonna*, the Nephewe of *S. Fabritio*, happely did immitate the prompt witt of *Marc' Antonio*, & was a valiaunt and prudent Knight, who for his desertes had of *Pope Iulio* the 2o. and *Pope Leo* the 1o. the companie of an hundred Launces, on whose vpper Armour and Ensignes he caused to bee figured an hande burning in the fire vpon an Aultet of Sacrifice with this Posie, *Fortia facere, & pati Romanũ est*. alluding his owne proper name to the auncient *Mutius*, who intending to haue slaine *Porsenna* King of *Toscanie*, and for that his hande failed in striking an other, he burnt it of, in the sight of *Porsenna*: which was so merueilous, (that as the Poet saith) *Hanc spectare manum Porsenna non potuit*.

The *Colonesi* bare altogether one *Impresa* for them all, at such time, as *Pope Alexander* shewed extremitie to the Romaine *Barony*: whereupon they were constrained with thon

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the Cardinall to flye *Rome*, and parte of them tooke *Naples*, and parte *Scicill*: in which caſe they were thought to make a better departure then had done the *Vrſini*, for that they had rather looſe their robe and dignitie then to commit their liues to the mercie of bloodie tyrants, as did they: whereupon they became vndone and miſerably ſtrangled. Their *Impreſa* was to ſignifie, that although they were perſecuted by hard fortune, and their former power ſo greatly abated, yet liued they, and in hope that when theſe boyſterous ſtormes were paſt, they ſhould againe haue to reioyce: and this it was: Certaine Bulruſhes figured in the middeſt of a Riuer, whoſe nature is to bowe & not to breake, neither with the violence of wane nor winde, & their mot was, *Flectimur non frangimur vndis*.

Dom. Sith you haue recited the deuiſes of theſe Romaine Barons, it ſeemeth alſo conuenient that you ſay ſomewhat of other Princes and Captaines of *Italie*, and likewiſe of Forainers, if happely they come to your memorie.

Ion. But firſt hearken to that which *S. Bartholomeo Aluiano*, a Captaine ſtoute & valiaunt, but very vnfortunate, vſed to beare on his Enſigne. He was a great defeder of *Vrſina* factiō: he manfully ouercame *Braccciano*, the Chāpiō of Pope *Alexander*: And tooke *Viterbiū*, ſpoyling all which tooke part with *Iohn Gaeto* (in

fauour

fauour of the *Maganzesi*) saying they were the pestilent venome of the Citie: and after the death of this *Iohn Gatto* their Captayne, he bare in his ensigne an Vnicorn, whose propertie is to haue power against poyson, figuring a fountayne all inuironed with Todes & Serpents., and the Vnicorne putting in his horne into the Riuer before hee drinke, to purge the venome, with this mot about his necke, *Venena pello*. The same Ensigne was lost in the Battle of *Vincentia*, after that this *Aluiano* had a great space defended him against the fury of his enemy: *Marc' Antonio da monte*, holding it in his armes, and neuer leauing it, vntill he fell downe dead.

For the same *Aluiano* was composed also another *Impresa*, by *Cotta* of *Verona* his Poet, after the sacking of *Vincentia*, whereof it was sayde the Purueyour or Paymayster Master *Andreo Loredan*, was the principal cause, who at that instant when the *Cesarian* enemies being put to flight, run armed with this brest-plate of Crimsin Veluet, into the Pauillion of the Generall, and finding him sitting at the Table with many other captaynes, consulting what were best to bee done: he began to lay before them their cowardise, and long lingering, in not pursuing the Enemie: Albeit they were of this minde, that the enemies which flye ought to haue a bridge of siluer. But he with greate instancie vrged them that they

should

ſhould not ſo ſuffer the to eſcape their hands, conſidering that they had alreadie turned their backes. By the braue and furious words of this *Loridano*, were many incenſed to purſue them: and by that meanes were the *Venetians* ouercome, and *Loridano* left dead in the fielde, receiuing the iuſt penaltie of his raſhe attempt. Whereupō *Cotta* exhorted his Lord, that in ſtead of the Vnicorne that he had loſt in that Battel, to beare in his Enſigne a Gander in the middeſt of certaine Swannes, with this briefe about his necke: *Obſtrepuit inter olores*: to ſignifie that it was vnfit and ill beſeeming that a Senator with a lōg gowne ſhould preſume to iudge of warlike affayres among Captaines. But this deuiſe *Aluiano* refuſed, (albeit greatly commending it) for that he would not ſeeme to ſcorne the ſayd *Loridano* being dead, in comparing him to a Gander.

Now will I ſpeake of others, renowmed with the fame and glorie, which they by their worthie deedes haue atchiued: amongſt whō I reckon as chiefe *Franceſco Gonzago* Lorde of *Mantua*, who became moſt famous in the Battell at *Taro*, and by the Conqueſt which he got ouer the Kingdome of *Naples*, for the King *Ferandino*. This *Gonzaga* being of malicious enuie accuſed before the *Venetian* Senate, for whom he was Captaine general: and after he had iuſtified himſelf, he vſed for his *Impreſa* a Furnace wherein golde is tried, ſet

on the fire, with certaine stemmes of golde therein, with this Posie out of the holy Scripture: *Brobasti me Domine, & cognouisti.* willing also, *Sessionem meã* following in the same sentence to be vnderstoode. His slaunderous accusers obiected, that he coueted to sit on two seates, that is to say, serue the *Venetians* in the warres, and also *Lodouico Sforza* his brother in law, in taking the aduauntage of the time after the Battell, ceasing to pursue the French men halfe conquered, in which case he neuer offended, for it was all forged by the *Earle Gaiazzo*, to pleasure the French men, and in dispight of the Duke *Lodouico*, for *Gaiazzo* desired not to see the *Venetian* Lordes Conquerers: to the ende, that if the French men had bene ouercome, they had not so victoriously haue gone to occupie the state of *Millan*, of them desired euer since the time of Duke *Phillip* and his father.

Amongst all the famous Captaines, the Lorde *Giouan, Giacopo Triuultio*, was of soueraine wit, and in great reputation, who from the beginning as an Enemie to the Duke *Lodouico Sforza*, seeing him seeke the vsurping of the Dukedome, which was the right of his Nephewe, he ioyned with the King of *Aragona* open Enemie to *Lodouico*, for the same cause. And to signifie that in the gouernment of his Countrey he was not to yeeld one iote to him: he bare for his *Impresa* a quadret of

Marble,

Marble, with a ſtile of Iron plãted in the middeſt, oppoſite to the Sunne, which was the ancient Enſigne of his houſe, with this mot, *Nõ cedit vmbra ſoli:* Although the Sunne turne about neuer ſo often the ſtile alwaies yeeldeth his ſhadowe.

Alphonſo Duke of *Ferara*, a Captaine of reſolute Proweſſe and admirable conſtancie, when he went to the Batell of *Rauenna*, did beare a Globe or round boule of mettle, full within of artificiall fire, which powred forth flames by certaine creueis, and it was ſo cunningly contriued, that at due time and place the fire would iſſue forth, making great confuſion of thoſe, which were within the daunger thereof. The inuention wanted a Poſie which was afterwardes added by the famous *Ariſto*, and it was *Loco & tempore:* and then trãſlated into French to giue it a better ſhew after this maner, *A lieu é temps*. Valiaunt did he ſhewe himſelf in this bloodie battell, placing his Artillarie in ſuch ſorte, that he ſlewe much people. In place and time.

After that by the death of *Pope Leo*, the Duke of *Vrbin* had recouered his eſtate, being reconciled with the *Baglioni*, and in frendſhip with the Cardinall of *Medicis*, who at that time gouerned the ſtate of *Florence*, was ordained generall for that common wealth. And on a time Maſter *Thomas Manfrede* his Embaſſadour, requeſted mee to deuiſe ſome

Impreſa for his Standard: whereupon I cauſed to be figured a Palme, hauing the top therof weighed downe with the heauie poize of a great Marble tied thereunto, to ſignifie that which *Plinie* ſaith of the ſaide tree, being of this nature that it returneth to the former faſhion be it depreſſed with neuer ſo greate a waight, mounting it vp in time, and drawing it on high: adding therunto this mot, *Inclinata reſurgit*: alluding to the vertue of the Duke, which neuer had beene oppreſſed, though ſometimes by the fury of Fortune for a time abaſed. This inuention pleaſed him well, and he ordained that it ſhould be ſet on his Standard: albeit vpó certaine occurrents he came not to take the office of Generall.

Dom. I am glad that you are begun to recite ſome *Impreſe* which you your ſelfe haue deuiſed, whereof I haue ſeene diuers in the Chamber where you ſtudie.

Iou. In trueth I haue made many in my time, but I ſhame to recount thē all, ſith there are ſome which haue thoſe defects which are peculiare to humaine actions. For as I ſaid at the beginning, the framing of an *Impreſa* is the aduenture of a readie and phantaſticall braine: and it is not in our power, although with long ſtudie, to forge an inuention, fitting the humour of him which ſhall weare it, or aduaūcing the credite of him which compoſeth it: for therein he aduēture th his fame,

being

being accompted learned. And in effect it is one thing to ſaie well, in ſhewing a conceite, and an other thing, to expreſſe the ſame with a ſoule and bodie, that it may bee altogether currāt without any error. For I my ſelf which haue made ſo many for others, deſirous greatly, but yet in vaine, to finde the body of a ſubiect to this mot, *Fato prudentia minor:* wherein I fare like the Shoemaker, who fitteth with newe and nete ſhoes euery other mans foote, and is faine himſelf to weare his owne broken and patched: for neuer could I finde out ſubiect of any thing which ſatiſfie me. But firſt before I ſhew you thoſe of mine owne compoſing, in reſpect of modeſtie I wil recite ſome of other men.

Dom. I pray you haue regard that you vtter no more which ſhal ſeeme maymed or vnperfect.

Iou. I ſhall now recount thoſe which ſhall be perfectly good, ſith heretofore wee haue bene ſhewed ſuch as haue bene ridiculous: and to proſecute our purpoſe I ſay, that the *Impreſa* of S. *Ottauiano Fregoſo* at the warres of *Bolona* & *Modena*, was accounted ingenious, but very extrauigant conſidering the picture: for he wore a great many Ciphers *Sables* in a field: Or in the borders of the vtter part of the Bards of his horſes. Which Charecters of them ſelues, in the art of numbring ſignifie nothing, but hauing a figure of number ſet

before them, they make a multitude almost infinite: as for example placing but an vnite before the said Ciphers, they signifie a *Million Millions*. Aboue the border was written this. *Hoc per se nihil est, sed si minimũ addideres maximum fiet*: Signifying that with a little ayde he should recouer the State of *Genoua*, which whilom was in the possession of *Signior Pietro* his father, who there was slaine, & this *Signior Ottauiano* at that time banished, little at all ayded by the Duke of *Vrbin*: but yet of sufficient hope to bee restored to his house, as afterward he was by *Pope Leo*. Trueth it is that the Posie is to to long, but yet the nature of the wittie subiect doth beare it singular wel.

Signior Hieroſin Adorno, who tooke *Genoua*, by the force and strẽgth of the *Cesarians*, and chased from thence the foresaid *Signior Fregoso*, for that he making himself of Fraunce, gaue ouer the gouernmẽt of the Dukedome, reseruing but only that title of Gouernour. This *Adorno* was a youth of singulare hope, and adorned with great vertues: but enuious death too sone cut of his desired life: he, as it is the slipperie nature of that fraile age, was ardently inamoured of a Ladie decked with notable beautie, and adorned with rare chastity: & on a time he requested me to inuẽt an *Impresa* to this tenor: how that he thought and verely beleeued, that the obtayning of her fauour would be the attayning of his felicitie;

licitie: & contrarywiſe, the loſing of the ſame the bereauing of his life, in yeelding to him a deſired death to ende the tedious trauailes which he had ſuſtained, either in the purſutes of loue or practiſes of warre: which I hearing there came to my remembraunce that which *Iulius Obſequens* wrighteth in his Booke *de prodigijs*. The lightning to bee of this nature, that comming after greate trauailes and diſgraces, it will make an ende of them, but during the time of happie fortune it bringeth damage, ruine or death: and ſo I figured the lightning of *Iupiter*, after that forme as we ſee it in antique Monuments, with this briefe about it, *Expiabit aut obruet*. The laſt parte of which Poſie he ſhortly after verified, departing this life in *Venice*, where he ſat chief Embaſſadour for the Emperour.

But ſith we are entred to mẽtion the worthies of *Genoua*, I will rehearſe three of myne owne which I made at the requeſt of two Gentlemen of the houſe of *Fliſca*, *Similaldo*, & *Ottobuono*, whereof one was to ſignifie the reuenge, which they had of the death of their Brother *Girolamo*, cruelly murdered by the *Fregoſi* cõpetitors of the ſtate: for the which theſe loſt their liues, *Zaccaria Fregoſo*, *S. Fregoſino*, *Lodonico*, and *Guido*: which reuenge did ſomething recomforte them for the loſſe of their Brother: ſaying, that their enemies had not much whereof to vaunt, in vſing ſuch

crueltie against them: being a thing not vsual among the *Fregosi*, *Adorni*, and *Fliſchi*, to imbrue their handes in the blood of their forraine enemies, but a thing lawful to contend for the principalitie in ciuile contention among thē ſelues, or els in open warre. I therfore figured an Elephant aſſalted of a Dragō, who twinding about the legges of his enemie, is wont by his venemous byting to empoyſon his belly, wherewith he dieth. But the Elephant by nature knowing the daunger, trayleth him along the grounde till he come to ſome ſtone or blocke, whereunto leaning himſelf he rubbeth there againſt the Dragon that he dieth. The deuiſe had a goodly ſhew, and the mot did ſufficiently bewray the ſignification thereof: which was in Spaniſhe after this maner, *Non vos alabereis:* to ſhewe vnto the *Fregoſi*, that they had not to boaſt of the vilanie committed againſt their blood.

You neede not boaſt.

I alſo compoſed another for the *Fliſchi* vpon this occaſion: They being in conference and conſulting to take the Emperours part, and to ioyne with the *Adorni*: whereupon many which were affectioned vnto them and alſo their ſeruaunts, aduiſed them not haſtely to reſolue them on this enterpriſe: for that the forces of the King of Fraunce were great, and that *S. Ottauino Fregoſo* had got them on his ſide, and had ſet firme footing in the gouernment, and therefore was well prouided

to

to defende himſelf againſt any which ſhould offer him the onſet, at that time: To who they replied, that they knewe how and when to put in practiſe ſuch exploites. And vpon this they demaunded me ſome *Impreſa*, and preſently there came to my remembraunce that which *Plinie* writeth of the *Alcions*, certaine birdes, which by inſtinct of nature, attend *Solſtitium vernale*, as moſt commodious for them, knowing the iuſt time when the calme ſeaſon, and quiet ſeas ſhall bee, which duelie hapneth once in the yeare, and is called of the common ſorte S. Martins Sommer, in which ſeaſon the ſayde *Alcions* build their neſtes, lay their Egges, and hatch their yong in the middeſt of the Seas, having happie leaſure by the quiet calme. Wherefore the daies wherein the *Alcion* breedeth are called *Alcionides*. I cauſed then to bee figured a cleere Skie, with a calme Sea, & thereon a neſt, from the middeſt to either ende ſomewhat reared vp of ſome high, with the neckes of the birds looking ouer the prowe being of merueilous ſtraunge colours, as azure, red, white, greene, and yealowe, with this mot aboue them in French, *Nous ſçauons bien le temps*: as much to ſay, as we knowe weil the time, when we haue to giue the onſet on our enemies. And ſo it happely fell out that they returned to their poſſeſſions reuēged on their aduerſaries, with the good *Augure* of theſe *Alcion* birds. This

deuiſe

deuise was depainted in many places of their stately Pallace at *Viola*, before it was by publique edict ruined.

I made also an other which peraduenture may better like you, for *Sinibaldo Flischo*, concerning a matter of loue, which began now to florishe in wanton peace, after the restles toyles of warre. For this *Sinibaldo* seruing a Ladie, who began to enter into some suspitiō of him, seeing him, euery where to frequent other gallant Dames, according to the custome of the Gentlemen of *Genoua*, whereof she sharply oftentimes reproued him, complayning of his vnpure and corrupted faith. Whereupon, he desirous to clere himselfe of that suspition, requested mee to inuent some pretie deuise concerning his case. And I figured him a Needle touched with an Adamant, applied to a Sea carde with a Compasse thervnto, and aboue the cleere azure Skie with Starres, with this mot, *ASPICIT VNAM:* To shewe that although in the heauens were very many faire Starres, yet there was but one regarded of the Adamant, which is onely the Pole starre: and so he reconciled himself with his Mistrisse, whom he entirely loued. And albeit he sported with others, yet was it not in earnest, but rather to couer his faithful affection, vnder the vaile of a pretensed loue.

Dom. Well my Lorde, sith there is not o

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bee obſerued any order, in rehearſing theſe thinges which are extraordinary: therefore I praie you proſecute thoſe *Impreſa* which ſhall come next to hande, whether they bee amorous or touching Armes: although in my cõceipt it were better to diſpatch firſt thoſe pertayning to Armes, and to end your diſcourſe with the ſweete inuentions of loue.

Iou. There commeth now to my remembraunce one of *S. Gion Paule Baglione*, a man of greate wiſedome and expert in feates of Armes, very affable and of ſuch courtly eloquence, as they vſe in the *Perugian* tõgue, but yet paſſing ſubtile and craftie, hauing aſpired to bee (as it were) Tyrant of *Perugia*, and Gouernor of the *Venetian* Campe. Howbeit, better had it bin for him, to haue kept him quiet with honor at home in his Coũtrey: for *Pope Leo* (prouoked by the infinite complaintes, made by the chiefe of the famelie of the *Baglioni*) trayned him to *Rome*, by ſmoth entreaties, whether whẽ he came he cut of his head. And ſo became his *Impreſa* cleane daſhed and moſt vaine: which was a *Griphen argent* in a fielde *Geules*, with this mot, *Vnguibus & roſtro, atque alis armatus in hoſtem*: whereupon wittely ſayd *S. Gentile Baglione*: this great bird had not the vſe of his winges, as at other times it hath to auoyde the ginne, which was layde for it.

I remember alſo an other which I made for

for *Girolamo Mattei* a *Romayne* Captayne of the Horsemen pertayning to the Garde of *Pope Clement*, a man of noble courage: who hauing with great patience, perseuerãce, and dissembling, attended a time to slay *Girolamo*, the Nephewe of the Cardinall of *Valle*, to the end to reuenge the death of *Paluzzo* his brother, by him cruelly murdred in a ciuile contention. And hauing requested me to find him some *Impresa* to this sence: that a noble minde hath powre to digest with time euery greeuous iniurie. And I figured for him an *Austritch* deuouring an Horsenaile, with this mot. *Spiritus durissima coquit*. So much was his notable reuenge commended, that his very enemy of the house of *Valle* accepted of an agreement, cancelling all cause of iarres betweene the two familes, and the *Pope Clement* pardoned the homicide, and made him captayne.

The *Austritch* also serued me, by reason of the diuersitie of her nature, and her diuers properties, for a nother deuise, which I had for my Lord the Marquesse of *Vasto*, at such time as the *Emperour* and the *Pope* assembled at *Bologna*, and consulted of the affayres of *Italie*: where was made Captaine of the league, for the defence of all estates, and the preseruation of peace *Antonio da Leua*, which degre rather seemed to appertayne to the Marquesse then to him. But *Pope Clement* displea-

sed

ſed for ſome dammages receiued by the Spaniſh *Fauteric* in *Piacentino* and *Parmegiano*, where the Souldiers liuing at their own pleaſure (the Marquiſe not reſtrayning their ouer great libertie) pillaged almoſt al the country, whereof the *Pope* would be reuenged in hindring his dignitie, which thing the Marquiſe taking greeuouſly, complayned of the *Pope* in this maner: I may repent me that I was not at the ſacking of *Rome*, when I departed and left my Souldiers, and like a true *Italian* refuſed to be Captayne. For I could not bee preſent at the iniuries and damages done to the *Pope*. Whereupon on a day as I recomforted him he ſayd vnto me: were it not that I had bene ayded by myne owne deſerts, to attayne to be Generall of this inuincible band of footmen, it had not fayled but ſome had put in their foote before me. And thereupon willed me to make him ſome *Impreſa*, and me ſeemed that the *Auſtritch Curſant* made very much to his purpoſe, who as *Plinie* ſaith, is accuſtomed to vſe her Winges as Sayles, excelling in ſwiftnes of running all other creatures. And albeit Nature hath giuen her Wings, yet hath ſhe not the vſe of them as haue other birds. And vnto this *Auſtritch* I added this mot. *Si ſurſum non efferor alijs, ſaltem curſu præteruehor omnes.*

Alſo I gaue the proportion of the ſame birde to the Earle *Pietro Nauarro*, when by

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the capitulatió of peace, he was deliuered out of the prison of *Castell Nuouo*, and came to *Rome*, where I began with him to haue very strict familiaritie, thereby to be informed of diuers poyntes concerning my Historie touching humaine affayres which I was then to write, wherein he curteously satisfied me, as one most couetous of his honour.

And hauing recounted all his victories and misfortunes, he requested of mee an *Impresa* vppon certaine subiectes which I liked not: whereunto I replied. Sir, you neede not seeke farther then your owne noble deedes for an *Impresa*: for I hauing made you renowmed in my historie, as the glorious inuenter of that admirable and supernaturall arte of Vndermining, which shall immortalize your name: as there where you caused most miraculously the Castle of *Ouo* at *Naples* to bee blowne vp into the aire: I would not haue you part from this, being a thing which hath purchased vnto you surpassing honour and singulare reputation. Whereupó he confessing it to be true, aunswered me: I praie see if you can finde me one to this effect. Then came there to my remembraunce that which some write of the *Austritch*, which doth not hatch her Egges as doe other birdes by couering on them, but doth accomplishe it with the effectuall raies of her eyes. So I figured the *Austritch* Male and Female, stedfastly looking vppon their

Egges

Egges with the raies paſſing from their eyes to their Egges, with this mot, *Diuerſa ab illis virtute valemus*. Expreſſing therby the renoumed commendation of his wit in the inuention of Vndermining, which with the violẽce of the fire, is in effect equall to the infernall Furies. This deuiſe pleaſed him well, and he willingly accepted of it.

Dem. Truely my Lord theſe your *Auſtritches* with their diuers properties, haue ſerued paſſing fitlie in theſe three farre different *Impreſe*, & I doubt whether any of the reſt which remaine can excell them, but it may bee they maie diſgrace others, compoſed of noble wittes, which you ſhall hereafter recite.

You. I am not ſo arrogant to aſſume ſo much to my ſelf, as to make ſuch which ſhall excell, nay rather coũteruaile the deuiſes of others: as namely of that of the Marquiſe of *Peſcara*, the firſt time he was Generall of all the light Horſmen in the Battell of *Rauenna*, where to defende his Enſigne, he was greeuouſly woũded, and being founde amidſt the dead Carkaſſes was taken priſoner by the French men, he bare in his Enſigne a *Spartan* Targat, with this mot, *Aut cum hoc aut in hoc*: According to the ſame which that couragious woman gaue vnto her Sonne going to the Battell of *Mantinea*, to ſignifie vnto him, that he ſhould bee reſolute in this, either to combat ſo valiauntly, therby to purchaſe victorie, or els dying

ing like a Gentleman or worthie the name of a *Spartan*, to bee caried dead in his Target to his house, according to the auncient vsage of *Greece*: which thing *Virgill* seemeth to note in this verse: *Impositum scuto referunt pallantia frequentes*: which also may be gathered by the wordes of the famous *Epaminondas*, who being in a Battell wounded to death, and caried forth by his Souldiers, earnestly demaunded whether his Target were saued, and answere being made, that it was, hee euen in the extremitie of death shewed some signe of reioycing.

The French Captaines haue beene much delighted in Militarie and amourous *Impreses*, amongst whom, the best renoumed, and who deserued to be soueraigne at Armes, was the Lorde of *Trimouille*, who being Conquerer in the Battel of S. *Aulbin* in *Bretaigne*, where was take prisoner the Duke of *Orleans*, which after was King *Lewes*: had for his *Impresa* a wheele with this mot, *Sans point sortir hors de l'orniere*: to signifie that he alwaies kept himselfe vpright in the seruice of his King, without going astray for any inconuenience which might happen. He was a Captaine of absolute courage, in so much that being 60. yeres of age, honorably died fighting, in the sight of his King, when he was ouercome and taken in the Battell at *Pauia*.

Without trãsgressing the prescribed limets.

There was also among the chief Captaines which

which came into Italie famous and renowmed, *Lewes* of *Luxembourg* of the race of the Emperour *Henry*, who died at *Bonconuento*, whose Sepulture you saw in the great Church at *Pisa*. It was this *Lewes*, to whom the Duke *Lodouico Sforza*, yeelded himself being betrayed [illegible] *Suissers* at *Nouara*, hoping to haue by him by his meanes some comforte in his calamitie. He (to come to our purpose) had for his *Impresa* a Sunne, *Or*, in a fielde *Azure*, inuironed with thick Cloudes, with this mot, *Obstantia nubila soluet:* to inferre that he hauing endured diuers aduersities, after the beheading of his Father the high Constable of Fraunce, hoped notwithstanding that by his valure and vertue, that euen as the Sunne with his skalding beames dissolues the Cloudes, so should hee vanquishe all that was aduerse to his shining vertues.

There succeeded this Gouernour in *Lombardie*, *Charles* of *Ambouse*, called, for the dignitie of the office he bare in the Kings court, great Master, and Lord of *Chamon*: He was of a pleasaunt disposition, and much addicted to loue, yet by his visage a man would haue iudged him rigorous, and by his Cholorique wordes fierce and angry: notwithstanding he delighted to courte Ladies, and tooke greate pleasure, in feasting, banquetting, dauncing, and in Comedies: which life was not liked of King *Lewes*. For he lay then sporting in these

delightes when hee ſhould haue ſuccoured *Mirandula*, beſieged and taken by *Pope Iulius*. He gaue for his *Impreſa* a ſauage man with a Clubbe in his hand, and aboue him this Latin poſie, *Mitem animum agresti ſub tegmine ſeruo*: thereby to aſſure the Ladies, that he was not ſo rigorous as he ſeemed to the outward vewe.

The foreſayde inuention to many ſeemed good: but notable in my conceipt was that of *Francesco Senſauerino* Earle of *Gaiaza*, who in emulation of his Brother *Galeazzo* at the comming of the French men into Italie, departed from the Duke *Lodouico*, and ioyned with them, not without breach of his honor: for that ſuch a departure caried ſome ſuſpect. His *Impreſa* was ſet on the Coate armour of a hundred Launces, which he obtayned of the King, & it was the *Trauayle* wherein Smithes vſe to put in wilde horſes when they ſhoe the̅, with this mot, *Pour dompter folie*: to ſignifie that he would tame a certaine enemie of his, which was of the like wilfull nature.

To tame follie.

There was alſo among the French men a famous Captaine of tried valure named *Edward Stuart*, of the blood royall of *Scotland*, called my Lord of *Aubinie*: he as being Coſin to King Iames the fourth, gaue a Lyon *rampant* in a fielde *argent*, all ſowne with buckles, imbrodered on his Cotes and Enſignes with this mot, *Diſtantia iungit*: Signifying that he

was

was the meane and the buckle to hold vnited the King of Scots and the King of Fraunce, to counteruaile the forces of the King of England, the naturall enemie of the French men and Scots.

Dom. It ſeemeth good to me, my Lord, that you returne againe to our *Italians*, at the leaſt to thoſe (as we ſay) of the ſecond ranke, ſince you haue alreadie from the beginning ſpokē of the moſt famous, to whoſe glorie few dare preſume to aſpire, now at this daie: for neither the *Coloneſi* nor *Vrſini*, haue any of their progenie which wil tread their ſteppes in the practiſe of Cheualrie. And it behoueth thoſe Princes which ſeeke to equall them ſelues in honor with *Franceſco Gonzaga*, *Alphonſo d' Eſtè*, *Giacopo Triuultio*, or with the *Signiori Regnicoli*, to ſtriue with reſtles labour and induſtrie: but now they, it ſeemeth, are in declining: for that at this day, honors and dignities, the rewardes of Cheualrie, are giuen into the handes of Straungers. And if the Earle *Ferrante Senſauerino*, Prince of *Salerna*, a man decked with notable vertues, doth not reſuſcitate the honour of his Kingdome, I ſee not what hope there is of other Princes in *Italie*.

Ion. There is ſome hope in deede of him, whereof he gaue great likelihood in the Battel of *Ceroſola*, where it was manifeſt that thorow his pollicie retiring a little back, he made in greate parte fruſtrate the victorie of the

French men. And it maie be ſaid that he preſerued the ſtate of *Millan*, and *Piemont* for the Emperour, which was no ſmall commendation in ſo great diſgraces.

Dom. Tell me my Lorde, doth this Prince beare any *Impreſa*, in my opinion he ſhould not want being ſo gallant a Knight.

Iou. Truely I neuer ſaw any Enſigne of his, neither any amorous deuiſe, whereof I meruaile, hauing in his houſe the excellent Poet *Bernardo Taſſo*. Alſo in his countrey the Duke of *Amalfi* of the houſe of the *Piccolomini*, a courteouſe and valiaunt Knight, and aboue all an excellent Rider, and very skilfull in iudging of a good and couragious horſe, being exhorted in my preſence by the Lord *Marquiſe* of *Vaſto* his Coſin, to leaue the pleaſures of *Sienna*, whereof he was Gouernour, and to goe with him vnto the warres of *Piemont*: he aunſwered, the ſpirit was willing but the fleſh was weake: but what meaneth (ſaith he) that place of Scripture, *Nemo nos conduxit*. Vpon that the *Marquiſe* made him Generall of the light horſmen in the warres of *Piemont*. And the Duke before he departed requeſted me a deuiſe for his Enſigne, to this effect that the *Marquiſe* had before ſaide vnto him, that three things were conuenient for him which ſhould take on him the like office, which are courage, liberalitie, and vigilancie: Doe not you (ſayd I) put him in remembraunce of liberalitie,

beralitie, neither courage, ſith he hath learned them both of you, neither of vigilancie, for that he is of this nature to riſe before day, either to goe to the chace or at leaſt to get him out of his bed: whereat he ſmiling ſayd: the vigilancie I meane comprehendeth all care and induſtrie a man vſeth, to the end he be not taken at vnawares, or els to ſeeke how to take his enemie at the aduauntage. Wherupõ I figured for his *Impreſa* a Crane holding vp her left clawe, wherein ſhe claſpeth a ſtone for a remedie againſt ſleepe: which thing *Plinie* recordeth of theſe Birdes, being merueilous wãtchfull: and thereunto added this briefe, *Officium natura docet*.

Dom. Tell me my Lorde, were there none amongſt the Nobilitie of the *Regnicoli* more auncient then this man which did beare any goodly deuiſe?

Ion. I remember but two, the one of *Andrea di Capua* Duke of *Tremoli*, and the other of *Tomaſo Caraffa* Earle of *Matalone*. The Duke in his flowring age, being made Captaine generall of *Pope Iulio*, died in *Cinita Caſtellana*, as was thought by poyſon, giuen him of ſome which enuied his honor. He bare for his *Impreſa* a bundle of darting Iauelines, to ſignifie that he wanted not weapons to keepe the enemies from approaching him, his mot was *Fortibus non deerunt*.

The Countie of *Metalone*, the Generall

of King *Ferandino*, had for his deuise *Romaine* Ballance, with this mot of the holy scriptnre, *Hoc fac & vines*: which seemed very extrauagant, for that the Ballance serueth to waigh many things: and it was skorned by *Monsi. di Persi* Brother to *Monsi. d' Alegria*, who discōfiting the *Aragonian* Campe at *Eboli* got the Ensigne of the Generall, and sayd: in good faithe my Enemie hath not obserued that which was written about his Ballace: for that he hath not well waighed his forces with mine.

And sith we are entred among the *Neapolitans*, whose Princes seeme to degenerate frō their aunceſters in not going to the warres, which I think is becauſe the honors and dignities due vnto them are giuen to straungers: yet I say there wāteth not men of the second forme, both noble and valiaunt, who by their valure aspire to honour: Amongst whom is *Signior Gion Baptista Castaldo*, famous for a thousand freshe and notable experiences, being General of the Campe of *Charles* the Emperour, obtayning great praise for his enterprises at *Germanie*, amounting to the honour of Liutenaunt and Captaine for the King of the *Romaines* in the affayres of *Transilnania* against the *Turkes* and the *Valacchi*. This *Castaldo*, all the time that the whole warres endured, against the French men in *Piemoat*, he would not be there, seeing that the Marquise

of

of *Vaſto* did diſtribute al the honorable Offices to ill experienced Souldiers, and therfore liued aloofe at *Millan*: declaring that the Marquiſe did worke thinges againſt nature, to make all Nations to wonder at his diſorderly dealing. And thereupon willed me to compoſe him ſome *Impreſa*, and I figured him the Mount *Ætna* of *Sicilia*, whoſe top burneth caſting out violent flames of fire, and a little belowe hath the grounde all couered with Snow, not farre from that a vaſtie place full of burnt and conſumed ſtones, and at the foote thereof lyeth a moſt pleaſaunt & fruitfull ſoyle: adding thereunto this mot, *Natura maiora facit*: Alluding to the diſorder of the Marquiſe in beſtowing the honours of the fielde. Thus he became ſtayned with the reproache of vnſkilfulneſſe and want of Iudgemēt, in preferring ſuch as he thought might commaund him: and putting by, ſo valiaunt a Captaine, as was this *Caſtaldo*.

Dom. Now I pray you my Lorde what are the other *Impreſe* which I haue ſeene depainted in your Gallery?

Iou. There is among other, that of the excellent and neuer ſufficiently commended Lady the Marquiſe of *Piſcara*, *Vittoria Colonna*, to whom I accompt my ſelfe infinitly bound, as I haue ſhewed to the worlde in the life of her inuincible Spouſe, the Lorde Marquiſe of *Piſcara*. This Lady, albeit ſhe lead a chaſt and

sober life, vertuous and liberall towards euery man. Yet there wanted not enuious and malignant persons, which did molest and disturbe her well disposed mynd. But cōforting her selfe with this: that they which thought to harme her, hurt them selues; which prooued most true by diuers reasons which are not here to be vttered. Therfore I figured her certayne Rockes standing in the middest of a turbulent Sea, beating against them with boysterous waues: with this brife added aboue it, *Conantia frangere frangunt*. As much to say, that the Rocks of their firme force and strength, repell the furious surges of the raging Sea, breaking and consuming them into froth. And this *Impresa* bearing a gallant shew I caused to be figured in my house.

And sith we are entred to speake of Women, I will also shewe you another which I made for the Lady Marquise of *Vasto*, *Maria d'Aragona*. Who was wont to say, that as she her selfe made singulare acount of her honor and chastitie, so not onely would she preserue it in her owne person, but also take great care that none of her gentlewomen and seruants should, rechlesly corrupted, transgresse the limits of honestie. And thereupon set downe a straight order in her house, to remoue all occasions both from her men and women, of seeking to defile themselues or their honour. And therefore I made her that *Impresa* which

you

you ſo greatly commended in my Gallery, which is two bundels of rype *Millet*, bound together with this mot. *Seruari & ſeruare meũ eſt*. For the *Millet* is of ſuch nature, that not only it gardes it ſelfe from al corruption, but alſo preſerues other thinges from putrifying which lye neere it, as the *Rubarbe* and *Caſſire*: which precious things the *Apothicaries* keepe in boxes full of *Millet*, to the ende they may not be conſumed.

Dom. I am gladde that you are diſcended from Captaynes to treat of Women: which alſo is the more pertinent to the purpoſe, for that theſe two were the wiues of moſt honorable knights.

Ion. Hereupon I call to mynde a beautiful dame, the loue of *Odetto diffois*, called *Monſig. di Lutrec*, who on a time merely ſporting with him ſayd, that he was noble and valiant, but too too prowde, wherein peraduenture ſhe tould the trueth. For when diuers of the richeſt *Seigneurs* of *Millan* came in the morning to his houſe to ſalute him, without putting of his Bonnet, or with any other geſture of curteſie or humanitie, hardly would he dayne to ſhewe them a merry countenaunce, which thing brought him into reproche and contempt with the Nobilitie of *Milan*. Wherevpon he tooke occaſion (in ſteede of a Cowe, *Gueles* with Bees, the auncient Armes of his houſe) to figure a large Chimney, and therein

a great fire, with this mot *Dou'è gran fuoco gran fumo*. To inferre an answere to the Lady, that where there is a fiery courage ioyned with Nobilitie, there must also be a great smoke of pryde: Wherefore it is necessarie, that great estates, take especiall regard that they commit nothing to cause them to bee hated of the common people, as was *Theodore Trivulsio*, who having bin long a complayning among the French men, and *Aragonians* in the kingdome of *Naples*, was esteemed wise and politique, rather for speaking litle in Counsailes and assemblies, then for combatting in Skirmishes, he bare for his deuise only fiue yeares of corne, without any mot, being a man litle liberall either in hospitalitie or rewarding Souldiers, and of small curtesie in affayres of peace, which brought him into disdayne with the *Venetian* Lords, for when he was generall, that they determined to change him for *Marc' Antonio Colonno*. And therfore Master *Andre Gritti*, puruoyer of the campe, vouchsafed to bestowe on him a bitter bob after the conflict of *Bicocca*: saying, our Generall goeth very ill prouided for victuals, carying but the prouision of fiue eares of corne with him, to whome replied Master *Cesar Viola* his Standard bearer, a gentleman of *Milan*: meruayle not thereat Sinior, pouruoyer, for that our Captaine liueth with a thin diet, putteth out to credit, and after payeth himselfe

with

with ready coyne. But these corne eares of *Theodoro* reduce to my memorie, a deuise which I made for the Marquise of *Vasto*, whē after the death of *Antonio da Leua*, he was chosen Generall for the Emperour Charles the fifth, saying that he had scarce ended the toyle and trauayles which he had induted in attayning the Captayneship of the Fauterie, but that newe cause of troubles began to spring, the chardge thereof being almost vnsupportable. Thereupon, conformable to his purpose I figured him two Sheues of rype Corne with this briefe. *Finiunt pariter renouántque labores*. Signifying therby, that scarce is the corne fully ripe, but that the Plowmans restles toyle is renued, againe prouiding for another Haruest, and the rather was this agreeable to the subiect of the Marquise, for that his great grandfather *Don Roderico d'Auales*, high Constable of *Castile* did beare the Sheffe of corne which he wan in Battayle.

Also not long before he had an other notable deuise inuented by Master *Gualtier Corbet Senate* of *Milan*, vpon certayne talke had with the sayde Marquise, who greatly desired to be generall (as afterward he was) that hee might wholy shew his valour, without hauing his deserued prayse communicated with the other Captayne which was in authoritie aboue him, saying that he had prooued, that many of his owne exploytes, in feates of Armes

mes were attributed either to the Marquise of *Piscara*, or els to *Sinior Prospero*, or *Antonio da Leua*: and that now he hoped, sith he was freed from a compagnion, to manifest to the whole world what he could doe in the arte Militarie. And herupon Master *Gualtier* figured the *Spheres* of the foure Elements seperated: with this mot aboue them. *Discretis sua virtus inest*. As much to say, that the *Spheres* in their proper places haue their peculiare vertues, whereunto, notwithstanding, a Philosopher will not yeeld, for that the Element of fire in his own proper sphere doth not burne, but onely when it is mixed with other Elements, but for that it had fayre apparence it went for currant, being set on the banners of of the Trompetters.

This Marquise had also another concerning a matter of loue, inuented by *Antonio Epicuro*, a learned man in the Vniuersitie of *Naples*: The which was the Temple of *Iuno Lucina* figured, borne vp with Pillers, and therein an altar with flaming fire, which with no winds could euer be blowne out, and yet the Temple was on euery side open, all the space betweene the pillers, thereby to signifie to the Lady whome he serued (and who long time had loued him, and now greeued seeing her self, as she thought, abandoned of him, wherein notwithstanding she was deceiued) that the fire of his loue was eternall and

vnquench-

vnquenchable, as was that on the altar of *Iuno Lacina*. And the inſcription it ſelfe of the Temple engrauen on the Pillars, ſerued in ſteade of a mot. *Iunoni Lucinæ dicatum*. This deuice alſo beares a fayre ſhewe, but it requireth ſome man of skill to declare the Hiſtorie to thoſe which knowe it not.

Alſo that *Impreſa* was ſomwhat loftie of *Lodouico Gonzaga*, called for his brauery *Rodomanto*, who the ſame day that Charles the fifth viſited *Mantua*, wore in his Cote of raced Satin all embrodered with ſquares of diuers colours, one repreſented a Scorpion, and the other this mot. *Qui viuens ladit morte medetur*: being the nature of a Scorpion to cure her venemous infection, being killed & layed to the wounde. Thereby to ſignifie that he had ſlayne him which preſumed to offend him, and had cured the hurt of the offence with the death of his enemy.

The ſame *Lodouico Gonzaga* had alſo an other *Impreſe* farre better, and it happened vpon this occaſió: Being ariued with the Emperours Campe to aſſalt Rome, betweene the gate *Aurelia*, and *Settimiana*, tooke the Suburbes of S. *Peters*, through the courage of his Souldiers. Whereupon Rome being miſerably ſacked by Germaines, Spanyards and Italians, which tooke the Emperours parte: he ſaid, that the Souldier is to haue renowme, as his guerdó, be it good or bad. As if he ſhould

ſay,

ſay, although the taking of Rome, and the ſpoyle therof was abominable to euery good natured Italian, yet notwithſtanding did he thinke it would make him famous: and vpon this he had figured the ſumptuouſe Temple of *Diana Epheſia*, which being burned by one deſirous of fame, (not regarding whether it were good or bad) by deſtroying the moſt gorgious Monument of the earth: who therfore became ſo deſpightfully loathed of the *Grecians*, that they neuer vſed his name, ſo deteſtable an act had he committed: his Poſie therunto was, *Alterutra clareſcere fama*: which I after added, miſliking this which he had before, *Siue bonum, ſiue malum, fama eſt*.

I compoſed alſo another for the Marquiſe of *Vaſto*: who had intelligence that his Souldiers in their tents and lodgings preſumptuouſly talked, ſaying with great iolitie that the Marquiſe might well giue the aſſault to this or that Forte, or skirmiſh with diſplaied Enſignes at the firſt and leaſt occaſion, or bende his force againſt ſuch or ſuch a Caſtle, pretending them ſelues to bee very skilfull and of great hardineſſe in their loftie wordes, yea, euen reprehēding their Captain as one which lay idle. But the Marquiſe ſayd, ſuch men, whē hapned the point of daunger, and neede required to ſhewe their proweſſe, would then keepe quiet both their handes and their tongues, when as he ſhould enter the fielde with

ſword

ſword in hand. And to expreſſe this his conceipt, I depainted him that Mechanicall Inſtrument, which hath many clackes ſet on a wheele, which make a great ratling, and is vſed to bee ſet in ſtead of Belles to call to deuine ſeruice on the holidaies during the time that it is darke, as commonly is vſed in Italie, at the time of the death of our Sauiour, when the Belles are not to be rong, the ſtead whereof the noiſe of this Inſtrument ſupplieth, and truely it beareth a pleaſaunt and phantaſticall ſhewe, hauing this mot, *Cum crepitat, ſonora ſilent*: to meane thereby that when needful occaſion ſhould ſerue, and the Marquiſe with glittering Armour were entering into daungers, theſe pretended venturers would tremble with feare, ſhewing them ſelues not aunſwerable to their brauery vſed in wordes.

I may not paſſe ouer in ſilence the Eſtendard of the Earle of *Santaſiore*, which he bare in the Battell of *Seruia*, which was poudred with Quinces, being the auncient Armes of *Signior Sforza da Cotignola*, by right line his great Grandfather, and amongſt the Quinces was this mot, *Fragrantia durant Herculea collecta manu*: to ſignifie that the Quinces gathered by the hande of ſo noble a Captaine, endured yet, yeelding a ſweete odour: alluding to *Hercules*, who gathered the like fruit in the Weſterne gardens *Heſperides*. The field was *Gueles* and the Quinces *Or*.

An

An amorous Ladie in Italie, who through her incontinent desire and vnsatiable appetite, not sufficed with the fauour of an honorable Lord, who effectuously serued her, abased her body to a youth of meane estate and poore parentage, but in the lineaments of his body comely, and of proper personage, with whose feauture she became fettered, & doted so much vpon him, that neither councell could reclayme her, nor shame compell her, nor the intire affection of her noble louer restrayne her from committing sacrilege with her honour. The foresayde Lorde had quickly some inkling of this matter, peraduēture by the Lady herselfe (for *quis bene celauerit ignem*) who by her inconsiderate gestures and semblances vnwarily discouered her trāsported lone. Whereupon he with great dispight contemned her, and willed me to compose an *Impresa* to this effect: That whereas he accounting himselfe happy, being in the proper possession of so great a good, and afterward to become copartner with so base a compagnion, he thought himselfe extremely iniuried. Wherfore I vpon this, caused to bee depainted a triumphal Chariot, with an Emperour therein triumphing, drawen with foure whihte horses, and a slaue standing behind him, holding fast his crowne of Lawrell vpon his head after the auncient manner of the Romaines, who to temperate the happie

fortune

fortune and vainglory of the Emperour vſed to haue a ſlaue to triumphe with him, The poſie thereunto was taken of *Iuuenal. Seruus curru portatur eodem.* Here the humane forme may ſeeme tollerable to the ſcrupulous ſearcher, being in an extraordinary habite.

Dom. This greatly delighteth me, for that the ſoule being a verſe of *Iuuenal*, geueth it great light, but tell me my Lorde, doe *Cardinals*, with whome you haue bene conuerſant, vſe to beare *Impreſe*.

Ion. Yea in trueth, being worthy Princes, as was the Cardinall *Aſcanio Sforza*, who laboured by al poſsible meanes to creat *Federico Borgia* Pope, which was Alexãder the ſixth, and it was not long after, but by manifeſt triall, he found him not onely vngratefull, but alſo his deadly enemie. In ſo much, that by the meanes of him and his own vnluckie fortune, the Duke *Lodouico Sforza* was dechaced milan by the French men. And without geuing ouer his hatred, he neuer ceaſed to purſue the famely of the *Sforzi*, vntill they were betraied, put from their eſtate, and lead priſoners into Fraunce. To this purpoſe *Aſcanio* framed for his *Impreſa* the Eclipſe of the Sonne, which happeneth by reaſon of the interpoſition of the Moone betwixt it and the earth: to inferre, that as the Sonne cannot then ſhine on the earth, by reaſon of the iniury and ingratitude of the Moone, hauing

no light of her own, but such as she receiueth from the Sonne, and in the Eclipse she taketh away from her benefactor as most vngratefull, Euen so Pope *Alexander* rewarded a singular good deed with most vile recompence, his mot hereunto was: *Totum adimit quo ingrata refulget.*

Dom. Without doubt this *Pope Alexander* was a terrible and pestilent monster among all the Nobilitie of Italie: but I meruaile the lesse at his ingratitude towards this *Ascanio* (which was for a long time the honor of the Romaine court) for that diuers his successors haue followed his steppes, which may plainly be seene in searching their liues.

Ion. Hippolito d' Este Cardinall of *Ferrara*, (Vncle to the last which bare the same name) had for his deuise, a Falcon holding in her talents the counterpoize of a Clocke, as is to bee seene on the Parke gate of the Stewes of *Diocleſian*, but he had thereunto no mot: for he would haue to be vnderstood by deuiding this worde Falcon, that he wrought al his affayres in time, after this maner, *Fal con tempo.* The Falcon with the diamant of the house of *Medicis*, is attainted of the like fault.

And besides this he bare an amorous *Impresa*, which was a Camell on his knees charged with a great burden, with this mot, *Non suefro mas de lo que puedo:* as if he should saie to his Ladie, lay on me no greater torments thé

I can

I can beare: for I will suffer no more then I am able, being the propertie of the Cammell to incline him selfe to the earth of his owne will, to haue his lode layd on him, and when he feeleth that he is burdened sufficiently, beginning to set forwarde, he signifieth that he can carie no more.

After the death of *Ascanio*, and the Cardinall of S. *George*, there succeeded *Lodouico* of *Aragon* and *Sigismondo Gonzaga*, who repenting themselues to haue created *Pope Leo*: the one of them, to wit the Cardinall of *Aragon*, wore a white tablet with this mot about it, *Melior fortuna notabit*: and the other, *Gonzaga* bare a *Crocodile*, with this briefe, *Crocodili lachryma*: which is vsed in a Prouerbe, signifying the dissimulation of those, which make faire apparence of amitie, & within beare the venome of hate and emnitie.

The two most famous gallants of the Romaine court, haue been two youthes, the one exceeding the other, *Hippolite* of *Medicis*, and *Alexander Farnese*. And as for the first, we haue alreadie shewed his *Impresa*, *Inter omnes* of the Comet, and the eclipsed Moone. Now it resteth that we declare those three deuises of *Farnese*: whereof the first was an Arrowe hitting the white of a But, with this Greeke mot, Βαλλόντως, as much to say, it behoueth to ayme to the white.

The second was one which I made him, to

satisfie his request: which is to be seene in his rich and stately embrodered Tapistrie: and it hapned vpó this occasion: On a time talking with me he sayd, that at the beginning of his Cardinalshipp he was not resolued what *Impresa* to take, and that I should compose him one, to this effect, that he sayd vnto me: if God did fauour him in his secrete desires, in time would he publishe them with some notable *Impresa*. Whereupon I figured a little scrole of white paper, with this briefe aboue it, *Votis subscribunt fata secundis*.

Lastly, when by *Pope Paulus* the third, he was sent Legat into *Germanie* with the flower of the Italian Cheualrie, to aide the Emperor *Charles* the fift against the Dutch men, which fauoured the doctrine of *Luther*, and rebelled against him, I made for his *Impresa*, the triple forked lightning, the peculiar weapon of *Iupiter*, which he vseth when he will chasten the pride and impietie of men, as he did in the time of the *Giants*, with this motto, *Hac vno Iupiter vltor*: alluding the excommunications to lightning and the Pope to *Iupiter*. By the ayd of this supplie, which at the beginning of the warres came very commodiously, *Charles* the Emperour gayned the victorie.

Mons. Andre Gritti, Purueyer for the *Venetians* warres, wherein he was renowmed from the beginning to the ende, which warres endured eight yeres, and merited by his courageous

gious valour, to be Prince and Duke of their Commonwealth, At that time by his power was *Padoua* recouered and defended againſt the forces of *Maximilian*, who had on his ſide all the Nations of *Europe*: He had a notable *Impreſe*, inuented by *Giouan Cotta*, the famous Poet of *Verona*: & it was the heauen with the *Zodiac* and the twelue Signes, borne vpó the ſhoulders of *Atlas*, kneeling on his left knee, and with his handes embracing the heauens, with a mot there aboue, *Suſtinet nec fatiſcit*: Albeit the Lord (reſpecting modeſtie) would not weare it publiquely, to auoyde enuie, although it greatly pleaſed him, and was highly commended of euery man. *Atlas* hath a humaine forme, yet is the thing tollerable by reaſon it is a fiction.

The Lady *Iſabella Marquiſe* of *Mantona*, doth not deſerue to be paſſed ouer in ſilence, who for her honorable conditions was alwayes eſteemed to be of a noble minde, and had ſundry times of her life, diuers aſſaults of fortune, which gaue her occaſion to haue more then one *Impreſa*, and amongſt other, it hapned that for the vnmeaſured loue (which her ſonne Duke *Federico*, which he bare to a Lady, to whome he did all the fauour and honour he might. Whereby the Lady *Iſabella* remayned vnhonoured and little eſteemed. But the beloued of the Duke vſed to ride very ſtately thorowe the Citie, accompanied with

a great troupe of gallant gentlemen, which were wont to attend on the Marquise, And at length it came to this, that there remayned to accompany her, but only two or three old gentlemen which neuer would forsake her. Vpon which inconuenience, the sayde Lady caused to be figured this *Impresa*, in the olde Court of her Pallace in the Suburbs, to this purpose: which was a Candelsticke made triangulare wise, whereon are set many Candelsticks for diuine seruice vsed at this day in the holy weeke. From the which Candelstick not without some misterie the priestes vse to take away the Candles one by one, vntil they haue left on the top of all but one, to signifie that the light of fayth cannot perish at all. Vnto the which deuise there wanted a mot, whereupon I added this. *Sufficit vnum in tenebris*, according to that of *Virgil*, *Vnum pro multis*.

For the Sonne and Heire of the Marquise of *Vasto*, inheritour of the name, and the Estate of the great Marquise of *Piscara*, in whō was seene the expresse Image of vertue, striuing to attayne to the glorie of his Vncle, & Father, and of his other Ancestors at such time as he went into Spayne to serue King Phillip, I figured a great tree of Lawrell pertayning to the auncient house of the *Auolos*, from the which Lawrell were seene certayne great branches cut of, and among the rest

which

which remayned, was a ſtraight and gallant twigge ſpringing vp on a great height, with this mot: *Triumphali è ſtepite ſurgens alta petit*, which was ſo much the more congruent to the purpoſe, for that the Lawrell is dedicated to triumphers.

I will not omit one which I made the laſt yere for *Sinior Andrea*, the ſonne of *Don Ferrante Gonzaga*, who being a youth of great hope and towardnes, hauing gotten to bee Captayne of a band of horſemen, he required of me an *Impreſa* for his Standarde: and I alluding to that of *Virgil*, *Parma inglorius alba*, cauſed to bee depaynted a Shielde or rounde buckler, all fringed about, with foure rounde circles ſet at foure ſides thereof, bound together with foure wreathes of Lawrell. In the firſt Circle was the Furnace trying golde, the *Impreſa* of the Mraquiſe *Franceſco*, (with this mot: *Probaſti me domine*) who was his grandfather by the fathers ſide: in the ſecond, the mount *Olimpus*, with the Altar of fayth, of Duke *Federico* his vncle: in the third, that of *Andrea Capua* Duke of *Thermopoli* his grandfather by the mothers ſide, which was the bondle of Dartes, with *Fortibus non deerunt*: in the fourth was the Cattell of his father without a body, with this mot: *nec ſpe, nec metu*, and about his ſhield in a fielde *Argent* was written this briefe, *Virtutis trophæa nouæ non degener addet*: to ſignifie that he would not

take away or detract from his Ancestors, but rather did some notable *Impresa* of his owne.

Dom. Is it possible, my Lord, that the olde Captaynes and auncient Princes vsed no notable inuentiō in their *Impresa*? in my iudgement, they (and especially the worthies of *Millan*) for a long time, were loth to leaue their deathes heades, their Barnacle, courry combes and brushes with their posies either fondly composed or too too arrogant.

Iou. It is true, but yet there hath ben some good and currant, as was that of *Galeazo Vistont* which builded the Castle and bridge at *Pauia*, a worke worthy the noble minde of a Romaine, he bare a firebrand with a bucket of water, to signifie that he held in his hande both warre and peace, but there wāted therevnto a posie. That of the Earle *Colo* of *Campo Basso*, who liued in the memorie of our Fathers, had both a subiect and a soule. He being in pay with the great Charles of *Bourgonie*, feared not to aduenture the reproch of notable disloyaltie, to be reuenged of a perticulare iniury, and it was for some displeasure conceiued against the Duke (a man without measure chollericke) for crossing him in a consultation holden concerning the warres, for the which he bare him deadly hatred, and it so stack in his disdainful stomacke, that vntill the time of reuenge, he could neuer forget it, which fitly was offred him in the bat-

tle

tle of *Nanſi*, where he gaue aduertiſement to *Renato* Duke of *Loren*, that he ſhould not feare to aſſault the Duke his Lorde with the *Suiſſars*, for that he with his companie would not once moue to giue ayde, but be as lookers on. Whereby in that conflict the Duke was ſlayne, and the Earle *Cola* addreſſed him toward Fraunce, to acquaint him with King Lewes. And his *Impreſa* was afterward a great mightie ſtone of Marble, cleft with the force of a Figge tree ſpringing out of the creuiſe thereof, which in time creeping and encroching farther into the Marble, ſpoyleth and defaceth it with weake force and ſlender violence, and aboue it was this mot taken out of *Martial: Ingentia Marmora findit capriſicus.* And this *Impreſa* was not onely counted gallant in ſhewe, but alſo an example for Princes that they ought not in choler to abuſe their ſeruants, eſpecially ſuch as be noble and of ſtoute courage.

Dom. This reuenge was great, but very ignominious, and not vnlike to that of the Prieſt *Rinaldo da Modena*, ſometimes Steward, and Chamberlaiue to the Cardinall of Yorke in England, who hauing receiued beſides the iniury of words, certayne blowes of the ſayde Cardinall, which he could not well digeſt, and to be reuenged thereof he gaue him poyſon, whereof he died, and afterward confeſsing his fact, his body was quartered in Rome, in the

the time of Pope *Leo*. Let this suffice that it is no iesting with mē of courage, which esteeme their honour: therefore either dispatch them of life, or neuer meddle with them. For the man receiuing the offence, at the end, for his honour will watch a time to be reuenged.

Some worthie men in their *Impresa* follow the conformitie of their names, or els of their Armes: as did *Matthias Coruin* King of *Hungarie*, who bare a Rauen, a birde in force, witt and viuacitie singulare. Some bare their proper Armes for an *Impresa*, as did *Iohn Schiepusensis* after that he was King of *Hungarie*, being by the ayde and fauour of *Soliman* greate Lord of the Turkes, and through the affectiō of the Nobilitie of his Kingdome, crowned in *Alba*, who bare a Wolfe with her Vdder full strouting, being the Armes of his Father, but he added thereunto a mot, composed very pithely by *Stephanus Brodericus*, Chauncellor of his Kingdome, which was *Sina alienaq; pignora nutrit*: to signifie that he receiued into fauour, such as was his enemies.

I had almost forgotten to tell you the *Impresa* of *Francesco Maria della Rouera* Duke of *Vrbin*, (after that with his owne hands he had slaine the Cardinal of *Pauia* in *Rauenna*, in reuēge of the insupportible iniuries receiued of him) which was a Lyon rampant in his proper colour in a fielde *Gueles*, with a sworde in his pawe, with this briefe, *Non deest generoso in*

pectore

pectore virtus. The like was that which *Pompey* bare, (as *Plutarch* reporteth) and the inuentiō was of *Signior Caſtiglione*, who was preſent with him at the death of the Cardinal: albeit the Duke would not make great ſhew of this *Impreſa*, to auoyde the emnitie of the Cardinalles.

Signior Stephano Colbuna, the magnanimous Generall of the Duke *Coſimo*, had a *Siren*, the auncient Armes of the houſe of *Colonna*, and requeſted me being his godfather to ad thervnto a mot, which I did, conformable to his noble minde: and it was this, *Contemnit tuta procellas*: to ſignifie that he deſpiſed aduerſitie, truſting to his valour, as the *Siren* in ſwimming, contemneth all tempeſtes.

I figured for the Lady Ducheſſe of *Florence* a *Peahen*, which vnder her wings couered ſixe of her yong, three on the one ſide and three on the other, with this mot, *Cum pudore lata fœcunditas*: alluding to the nature of the bird, which therefore is dedicated to *Iuno* the Queene of heauen, according to the opinion of the *Panims*.

Dom. Tell me my Lord, I pray you, ſith you haue made, as it were a capitulation of all the noble Princes, Captaines, and Cardinalls, are there no other kinde of men which beare *Impreſe?*

Iou. Yes in truth are there, and ſome of the beſt learned men: as *Giacopo Sanzaro*, who being

ing exceſſiue amorous, and iudging it to bee for his honour aleadged *Bocace*, who greatly commendeth *Guido Canalcanti*, *Dante*, & Maſter *Cino di Piſtoria*, for that they euen to their extreme age were fo und to be inamoured. Wherefore remaining alwaies, expecting ſome recompence in his loue, bare for his deuiſe a pot full of little blacke ſtones, with one amongſt all the reſt white, with this mot, *Aiquabit nigras candida vna dies*: meaning, the day wherein he ſhould bee thought worthie the loue of his Miſtriſſe, ſhould counternaile all the blacke, clowdie, and vnfortunate daies of his life. To this was agreable the old cuſtome of the Auncients, who were wont to marke the ſucceſſe of their good and bad aduentures, with little blacke and white ſtones, therby to number at the yeres end, of which they had moſt, to ſee to knowe whether that yere hath bene luckie or vnfortunate. And he demaunded of me my iudgement of his *Impreſa*, and I tolde him it was good yet ſomewhat ſupernaturall: for that the pots of the Auncients were wont to be made of earth or mettaile: wherefore a man could not figure within any blacke or white ſtones: for that theſe pots were not tranſparent: to which he aunſwered, that his was to bee ſuppoſed of groſſe glaſſe, wherein they might bee diſcerned. And ſo we paſſed the time in pleaſaunt ieſting about this matter.

Maſter

Maſter *Lodouico Ariſto* inuented a notable *Impreſa*, figuring a Hiue of Bees with their honie, whom the vngratfull peaſant doth ſtiffle with ſmoke, bereauing them of life, to recouer their honie and waxe: with this mot, *Pro bono malum*: ſignifying therby as it is thought how he had beene ill intreated of a certaine Nobleman, which may alſo bee geſſed by his *Satyrs*.

Eraſmus Roterodam, borne in *Holland*, ſo excelled in the giftes of the mynd and ſo admirable witt, that he ſurmounted all other the learned of his time, as his infinite works doe plainely teſtifie: who for his autoritie in learning, bare for his *Impreſa* the God *Terminus*, being in ſignification ſomewhat difficult: meaning that he would not giue place to any other Writer, as the God *Terminus* would not yeeld to *Ioue* in the *Capitol*, as wrighteth *Varro*: His Poſie was, *Vel Ioui cedere neſcit*. He had freendly familiaritie with Sir Thomas More of Englande, a man of equall fame in wit, of whom he demaunded what poſie were fit to be ſet on his Studie doore, to whom Sir Thomas More aunſwered, that the Image of *Apelles* paynting ſomewhat, would very fitly adorne it: By the which *Eraſmus* meruayled what he ment, and he to expreſſe the ſignification ſayd: It well beſeemeth you, for that *Apelles* was wont to ſay, *Nulla dies ſine linea*: which you haue very well obſerued in your

writinges,

writinges, amazing all the worlde with your innumerable volumes.

Moreouer, the worthy learned man *Andreas Alciatus*, had for his deuise the *Caduceum Mercurie*, with the horne of richesse of the Gote *Amalthaa* the nource of *Iuppiter*, to signifie, that by the aboundance of learning and knowledge whereof *Mercurie* is sayde to be superintendāt, he had attayned renoume, a worthy reward for his trauayles. But truely this gallant deuise doth want a *Gnome*.

I remember that in my youth being amorous at *Panin*, I was constrayned of necessitie, for auoyding a greater inconuenience to vndertake a hurtfull departure to saue my life, and to signifie the necessitie which enforced me, I figured the beast called a *Bever*, who to escape the hands of the hunter, knowing that he is pursued for no other cause then for his stones which are of great vertue, biteth them of with his teeth as sayth *Iuuenal*, and leaueth them to the pursuers: with this Greeke mot: Αναλχι, as much to say *Necessitie*, to the which as sayth *Lucian*, both goods and men obey.

Finally, I made an *Impresa* at the request of Master *Camillo Giordan*, a Lawier, vpon this that he said he was doubtfull in minde, and in suspence to aduenture a certayne enterprise: and to be resolued therein, he attended the aduice and coūcell of some *Oracle*. And thereupō I figured him the *Aegyptian Spinx*, which did

did interpret Riddle with abſtruſe and ſecret matters, and alſo that Serpent with his tayle in his mouth, which ſignifies time, with this *Gnome*: *Incerta animi decreta reſoluet.*

Alſo my Nephew *Iulio Iouio* compoſed him an *Impreſa*, wherein he deuided or propheſied to him ſelfe ſome happie ſucceſſe, as his worthy wit repleniſhed with all learning did well deſerue, figuring a tree with graffes ſet thereon with (this Dutch mot): *Wim Gor will*, as much to ſay when God will, this my graffe ſhall ſpring and flouriſh.

Dom. If it were not preſumption my Lord, I would ſhewe you one which I made for my ſelfe, although *Impreſe* are onely fit and conuenient for men of greater calling, and not for me.

Iou. And wherefore not for you *Signor Dominico?* tell it me plainly and I will abſolue you of all blame of preſumption which you may incurre thereby?

Dom. Being then emboldened by your authoritie and fauour I will ſhewe it you: being deſirous to ſignifie a fantaſie of mine, not any way immodeſt, vpon this that not able to liue in mine owne native country *Piatenza*, in ſuch tranquillitie and quiet of mind as I deſired, I choſe for my ſecond countrey the flo-riſhing citie of *Florence*, where I hope fortune will proſper me vnder ſo prudent a Prince, and thereupon I figured a Peache tree loden with

fruite, which in the proper soyle wherein it doth springeth yeeldeth forth poysoned & vnpleasaunt increase, but being transplanted in some farther Coast, becommeth wholesome and fruitful: and the Posie was, *Translata proficit arbos.*

Iou. *Signior Dominico*, this deuise although it sauor of subtile inuention, yet doe I mislike it for two reasons: the one is, for that (as I remember) it hath bin deuised alreadie by Master *Alciat* in his *Emblems*: the other for that it is not agreable to you, in so much you were not planted venemous, for then could you not haue brought forth such fruite in your native soyle as you haue done. Wherefore if you will be ruled by me, prouide you of another better beseeming you.

Dom. Well my Lorde, sith you haue composed so many for others, vouchsafe me the fauour of some of your pithie and sharpe inuentions: for to say the trueth I am not satisfied with mine owne.

Iou. I will not faile to fulfill your request, yet not in respect of any recompence, for the trauailes which you haue vndertaken in translating my historie, wherein sith you spare no toyle to attaine to learning, it shall not bee amisse that you figure the sollowe share, which with long tilling becommeth bright shining as siluer: with this mot, *Longo splendescit in vsu.* Alluding to your selfe, who with long la-

bour

bow haue gotten singulare learning.

Dom. Truely I willingly labour and will as long as I liue, exercise my selfe in studie, hoping to get some brightnesse of shining fame: and herein I shall immitate your Lordshippe, who with your continuall studie haue made your name immortall: which thing hapneth not to many. But haue you any other notable *Imprese* to recount vnto me, for loth I am that this so sweete a banquet should haue so short an ende.

Ioa. Hardly doe I remēber any more, worthie the rehearsing, and I loue not to enterlace the Corrall with the Rubie: the Bricke with the Emerauld, or the Beril with the Diamant: and well may these suffice you, considering my age, wherein memorie is wont to suffer some defect.

Dom. Truely I confesse my Lord, you haue done more than your age would well allowe, yet this I say, that he which shall peruse and see what you haue written of this matter, will say you haue reserued many other notable deuises. But herein you may excuse your self, and say as you did in your Booke *de Elogijs*, or the discourse of famous mē, newly published: that albeit there are certaine left out, yet the fault was not yours, in that you had not their true portraitures, but rather theirs who neglected to send them to your studie, to accompanie so many worthie and Heroical persons.

As of late I met with a certaine Gentleman of the Prouince of *Romagna*, greatly complaining that he could not finde in your *Elogies*, the Knight *della Volpe*, who shewed himself so valiaunt a man in the seruice of S. *Marke*, and for the honor of Italie. But I to comfort him said, that I was assured the said Knight would not willingly haue his Picture drawne, being somewhat deformed in visage, hauing lost an eye honorably in fight, and that I would for recompēce procure him a place in this tract of *Impreses*: and thereupon I demaunded him whether he had euer borne any? What Sir (saith he) is it not wel knowne he bare a Foxe in his Ensigne shewing his deuouring teeth, with this mot, *Simul astu & dentibus vror*: to signifie that there was no dealing with him being so defended on euery side.

Iou. In deede the Knight was of great courage and vigilancie, and eskapeth not our historie without great commendation: & thervpon the *Venetians* erected him a goodly statute in their Church of our Ladie.

And now at the last I will not conceale the *Impresa* of *Giouanni Chiuchiera*, accompted a famous Knight in Warre; although it maie (like vnto the former) moue the beholders to laugh, which had depainted in his Banner, (to shew his courage and skill in the exercise of light Horse) a fierce Wolfe with a bloodie Lambe betweene his legges, turning his head

backe

backe regarding two great Sheepheards Maſtiues, whereof the one being neereſt, looking alſo backe behinde him to ſee if the other dogges came in to ſuccour him, as fearing to aſſaile ſo terrible an enemie: the mot added thereunto was, *Pauent oues, Timent canes, intrepidus manet.* But *Signior Dominico*, the number of Captaines with their *Impreſe* being ſo great, that it will confound the wittes of the diligent and laborous writer, I thinke it beſt for this time, to giue an end to our diſcourſe.

Dom. Well, ſith it is your pleaſure, I would not ſeeme troubleſome vnto you: hoping that an other time ſhall as fitly ſerue for our purpoſe.

The ende of the *Impreſe* of *Paulus Ionius.*

HERE FOLLOVV, TOVCHING THE FORmer ſubiect, certaine notable deuiſes both militarie and amorous,

Collected by Samuell Daniell.

A Certaine gentleman of Italie named *Hermet Stampo*, a Prelate, bare for his deuiſe a *Lawrell* tree menaced with lightning, with this briefe: *Nec ſorte, nec fato*, to ſignifie that his vertue could not be endamaged or anoyed by any fatale chaunce, for lightning (as writeth *Plinie*) hath no powre to hurt the *Lawrell*.

The ſame *S. Stampo*, being created Marquiſe of *Soncino*, and hauing married a wife, leauing his Eccleſiaſticall habite: repreſented this deuiſe: two *Palme* trees, the male and female, which neuer bring foorth fruite, vnles they are one planted by the other, adioyning thereunto this mot: *Mutua fœcunditas*.

His brother the Earle *Maximian*, being amorous of a Lady named *Anna Moronna*, who afterward was his wife, had for his *Impreſa* a ſilk worme, which only liueth with the leaues of

of the *Mulberie* tree, which tree in *Lombardie* is called *Moronna*, with this mot: *Suol di cio viuo*, which is halfe this verſe of *Petrarch*: *Suol di cio viuo e d' altro mi calpreco*. Thus in Engliſh: Onely of this I liue diſdayning other foode, to ſhewe that as the little beaſt doth only liue by thoſe leaues: ſo he onely contented himſelfe to feede on the leaues of his loue, in hope one day to enioy the fruit of legitimate mariage.

The Earle *Baptiſta di Lodron*, who died at the taking of *Gazal Montferrato*, had for his perticular deuiſe a Calthrope, a Stratagemical inſtrument vſed in warre, made with three yron prickes ſo ioyned, that howſoeuer it be throwen, one prick alwayes ſtandeth vpright, with this Poſie thereunto: *In vtraq; fortuna*: to ſignifie that the value and conſtancie of his noble mynde, in all fortunes vncertainties, remayned firme and vpright.

Gaſper de Mayno, a Knight of *Millan*, bare a Stockdoue with a Diamant in her bill, being the nature of this birde neuer to loſe any thing it hath once taken, thereby to inferre, that he would neuer giue ouer to loue his Lady, whoſe vowed ſeruant he faithfully remayned, whoſe name was alſo *Diamante*. His mot was: *In æternum*.

The *Liſard* of all his properties, hath one moſt rare and admirable, among the wonderfull and infinite effects of nature, which is, it

is neuer in loue to the which all other beasts doe yeeld, whereupon *S. Federico* Duke of *Mantona*, made him this *Impresa*: The *Lisard* figured, with this mot: *Quod huic deest me torquet*. Meaning thereby that it was the loue of his Lady which tormented him, from the which torments this beast was exempt.

The Earle *Maurucio Pietra*, who afterward was Bishop of *Vigena*, being Student in *Suna*, tooke to his surname *Disarmato*, for that being a souldier, he left the practise of Armes, and tooke him selfe to his studies, whereby he amounted at length to the Pontificall dignitie. He had for his deuise a Snayle, with her head foorth of her shel wounded with an arrowe, & his mot was this verse of *Petrarch*: *Trouommi amor del tutto disarmato*. Thus in English. Loue did me finde vnarmed, quite alluding to his surname, and also to the *Impresa* of that vniuersitie, which was a Snayle put into the fire, which feeling the heate thereof doth scritche, wherevpon the Loueworme, slaues to affections, would inferre that they being all fiered with amourous flames, were constrayned to sing and discharge in languishing verse their sweete sowre passions.

Sinior Charlo Vrsino, had for his *Impresa* a Ball mounted vp on hye with the stroke of an hardie arme with this mot *Percussus elenor*, which might be alluded to his inuincible courage, who the more his power was abated by

by aduerſe fortune, the more he ſeemed to exalt his vnconquered mind by force of vertue.

A yong gallant of *Salerna*, hauing a long time ſerued a curteous and beautifull dame, and at length by the fauour of the winged boy cropped both the flower and fruite of his long deferred pleaſures, to the extreme contention of ech of them both. But fortune fell to good hap, ſet her enuious foote in the pleaſant plotte of their delights, to fade the ſweete ſauoring Flowres of their vnconſtant ioyes. For this youth roming about the citie, vnhappely hapned to fixe both his rouing eyes and flitting fancie on the force of a yong Damoſell adorned with infinite beautie, and was ſo ardently inamored, that he doted vpon her. In which new affection, the heauens ſeemed ſo fauourable to further his purpoſe, that he eaſely trayned the tender heart of his yeelding Lady to the lure of his loue, as one greatly delighted to liue by exchaunging: whereupon (as louers are commonly wont to beare open eares and vncloſed eyes, and often to repeate a falſe tale for trueth) his firſt fauoured to whome bruted fame had reueyled, the tranſported affection of the wandering youth, ſeeing her ſelfe abandoned, liued deſolate, plunged in the deapth of all perplexities, and almoſt deſperate. Yet at the length waighing her caſe with wiſdome, did mode-

rate the griefe of her deſaſter, without diſcouering to any her ſecret ſorowe, purpoſing oncly to diſcloſe, by ſome couert meane, to the diſloyall and vngratefull louer, her penſiue and paſsionate heart. And thereupon ſhe cauſed a falſe Diamant, to be ſo cunningly ſet in Gold, that it would eaſely haue deceiued any man ſaue onely the expert artificer, and within the ring next vnto the finger, ſhe had made to be engrauen this mot in *Ebrewe: Lamazabatani*, which done, all diſſolued into teares ſhe ſent it to her loue, praying him, if any pittie or pietie remayned in the breaſt of a periured, to haue compaſsion on her, and reſtore her his loue. The youth being learned and diſcreete, that at the firſt ſight he vnderſtoode the Hebrewe mot, yet could he not comprehend what ſecret the deuiſe (imported) vntill by chaunce ſhewing his ring to a frend of his, an excellent gold ſmith, who told him that the Stone was a counterfait, he began to meditate on the miſtery, and loue hauing opened the eyes of his vnderſtanding, he ſoone perceiued thereby the lamentable complaint of the miſerable Lady, and the iniury he had done her: reſoluing into two words the mot of the falſe Diamant, in this ſort: *Di amante falſo*. Adding thereunto her mot out of the Goſpell, ſignifying why haſt thou forſaken me. Whereupon the gentleman ſorowing his fact, had compaſsion on the

Of a falſe Louer.

the deſolate dame, placing her againe in the poſſeſsion of his loue, which ſhe long time after enioyed.

The Earle *Clemete Pietro* being amorous of a Ladie, enforced for a time to depart frō her, had for his *Impreſa* an Elephant, which by nature (as ſaith *Plinie*) knowing that the Hūters purſue it for no other thing but for his teeth, (which are of admirable vertue) he knocketh them out againſt a tree: His mot was out of *Petrarch. Laſciai di me la meglior parte a dietro.* I left behind the better parte of me.

The ſame Gentleman being alſo at an other time inamoured of a Gentlewoman named *Laura*, he had for his deuiſe a Rauen cōbatting with a Cameleon, who being hurte and inuenomed by his enemie, knowing the wound to bee deadlie, to cure himſelf taketh the fruite of the Laurel in his mouth: his mot was, *Hinc ſola ſalus:* to ſignifie that his amorous wound neede no better *Cataplaſme*, then his Ladie *Laura.*

He had alſo another, being Captaine of the Horſmen in *Piemont*, which was an Egle flying ſo high againſt the Sunne thar it burned her feathers, with this mot, *Aude aliquid dignum.*

The fourth deuiſe of this worthie Knight, was a naked ſworde hauing this mot, *Ex hoc in hoc:* to ſhewe how he was to trie by the ſworde his iuſt cauſe, and the reaſon he had

to combat with his enemie.

Gionanni Battiſta Bottigella, an honorable Gentleman deſirous to expreſſe an amorous conceipt, had for his *Impreſa* a Ship with hoyſed ſayle, and the Fiſhe called in Latin *Remora* holding it faſt: which Fiſhe (as *Plinie* recounteth) is of ſuch great force, that if it take to a Ship, it ſtaieth it and holdeth the ſame ſo faſt, that neither the furie of windes, nor any other force, is of power to ſtirre it: His mot was, *Sic fruſtra*: ſignifying that euen ſo it nothing preuailed him to bee faithfull and conſtant to his Ladie, ſith ſhe ſhewed her ſelfe rigorous and cruell towards him.

Hippolito Girami a Gentleman of *Millan*, at the warres of *Siena*, in the ſeruice of the Emperour, bare a ſworde figured, with a Serpent twinding about it, hauing a Laurell garland in his mouth, with this poſie, *His ducibus*. The ſword in this place ſignifying ſtrēgth and valure of bodie: The Serpent wiſedome and vertue of minde.

A certaine Gentleman to ſignifie that according to his courteouſe and gentle nature, was willing to pleaſe in euery vertuouſe and reaſonable action, but by force, and cōſtraint he was not cōpelled to do any thing; whereupon he figured a Palme tree, whoſe propertie is ſufficiently knowne, with this mot, *Flectimur obſequio non viribus*.

An Italian Ladie named *Liuia Tormiella*, was

was in her life moſt beautifull, & of rare chaſtitie, who to ſignifie the integritie of her worthie mind wholie addicted to vertue, had depainted *Heliotropium* the Marigold, which alwaies turneth towardes the Sunne, as if it had ſence, with this mot, *Ventus ad ſolem.*

An honorable Gentleman hauing vnfortunatlie maried a wife of ſingulare beautie, but (according to the common rumour) of ſingle honeſtie. For all which knewe him, verely beleeued that ſhe offred him an extreme iniurie, as in trueth ſhe did. But the poore Gentleman (as commonly it happeth in the like caſe) perceiuing her vnfaithfull dealing, dronke vp his ſorrowe in ſilence, intreating (notwithſtanding) his wife honorablie, in all louely maner: ſuppoſing thereby, for that ſhe ſprãg of noble blood, that ſhe would become faithfull and loyall, reſpecting her honor. But herein he was greatly deceiued: for the diſloyall Dame hauing ſauoured the ſweete of ſondrie diſhes, neglected her olde diet as vnpleaſant to her inſatiable appetite, which he to his inſupportable griefe vnderſtanding, to excuſe his hard hap, figured *Argus* with his hundred eyes garding *Io* the Minion of *Iupiter* tranſformed into a Cowe, who, notwithſtanding his diligent watching was deceiued of his chardge. Hereunto he added this mot, *Fruſtra vigilant.*

Girolamo Paluicino, did beare for his *Im-*

preſa

presse an Egle, which according to *Plinie*, only of all Birdes, hath neuer beene slaine with an Arrowe: wherfore he is sayd to carie the weapons of *Iupiter*, hereby to signifie that he had neuer bin striken with the wrath of the heauens: and although he had bin with great iniurie persecuted, yet was he againe restored to felicitie and honor: his mot was, *Est mihi ferè durum*.

A certaine Gentleman hauing espoused a noble and vertuouse wife, caused her to were for her *Impresa* a Snayle closed in her shell, as she remaineth all the winter, to defende her from the colde, with this Posie, *Proprio alitur succo*: to signifie that she should satisfie her self with the loue of her owne husband, euen as the Snayle is nourished with her owne moysture.

A Dutch Gentleman soiourning at *Naples* the nurce of delicious pleasures, and recourse of all vices; in the blouming flower of his youthfull yeares, being well monied, became amorous of a Dame, with who he spent both his vnrecouerable time, and consumed his dearlie gotten treasure, in vaine delights, and vnconstaunt pleasures. But at length cōceiuing his error, knowing whether his youth and this abuse would bring him, accepting good councell retired from *Naples*, to escape the toyles of inticing affections. And to shew his intention he figured a Bucke, couched in

a ditch,

a ditch: being the nature of this beast, that after hauing coniojned with the female, doth so lothe himselfe by reason of the stenche of his filthinesse, that he retireth solitarilie into some ditch, wherein he remaineth vntil there happen a great shoure of rayne to walhe and make him cleane: and afterward returneth againe to feede: his Posie was, *Lenimine pœnitentia.*

The Captaine *Consalue Fernando* in the last warres at *Naples*, performed great exploytes, but rather by pollicie then any great power, whereby he alwaies ouercame in battell: and desirous to manifest to the worlde, how he was ayded by his subtile practises, tooke for his *Impresa* a Crosselbowe bent with a racke, and thereunto this Posie, *Ingenio superat vires.*

A certaine gentleman after his long and tedious suite, finding the soyle which he tilled altogether fruitles, and the flintie heart of his mistresse to afforde him no fauour, to shewe that his maladie was without remedy, he figured an heart wounded with an arrow, with a branch of the herbe *Dictamus* in his mouth, which herbe groweth plentifully in *Candie*, whereof the wounded Hart eating is said to be cured, with this Spanish mot thereunto *Esto tiene su remepio y non yo*, As much to say, this beast findeth remedie, and not I: like vnto that, whereas *Phœbus* in *Ouid*, complayneth of his loue to *Daphne*, saying:

Hei

Hei mihi quod nullis amor est medicabilis herbis.

Simon Pyrho di Stipicciano, being at the defence of *Carignan* in *Piemont*, valiantly sustayned the siege against *Mons. d'Augnian*, and all the French Campe, and (after that the Marquise of *Vasto* was discomfited at *Cerisole*, where the Emperours part lost the battayle) he before he would yeeld, although greatly destitute of victuals, held them out fourtie dayes, and at the length, hauing no hope of succour, he was constrayned to yeeld, and so departing from *Carignan*, went (according to the othe he had made) vnto the King of France, who greatly honoring his vertue, albeit he was his enemy, made him the proffer of great preferment if he would serue him. But *Simon Pirhus* rendring thanks to his maiestie, refused all conditions and offers made. Afterwarde vpon this he had figured for his *Impresa* the horse of *Iulius Cæsar*, who woulde neuer suffer any other rider, which had (as sayth *Plinie*) his fore feete like vnto the feete of a man, and so was he figured in the temple of *Venus*. His mot was: *Soli Cæsari*. Faithfull onely to the Emperour.

An amorous gentleman of *Milan* bare in his Standard a Torch figured burning, and turning downeward, whereby the melting wax falling in great aboundance, quencheth the flame. With this Posie thereunto, *Quod me alit me extinguit*. Alluding to a Lady, whose beautie

beautie did foſter his loue, and whoſe diſdayne did endamage his life.

A noble minded Gentleman (whoſe worthy vertues, ſith in flowring yeres they haue purchaſed the happie fauour of each mans voyce, little neede the ſimple *Blazon* of my rude penſill) hath for his *Impreſa* a ſworde with this Greeke mot (πιςως σοι παραμενω. Vowing thereby his loyall ſeruice to his lawfull ſoueraine, perſeuering conſtant and faithfull, followiug the example of his worthy progenitors, vnder whoſe Enſigne both I and theſe my ſimple labours hope to find fauour.

Fideliter perſeuero in fide illi.

FINIS.